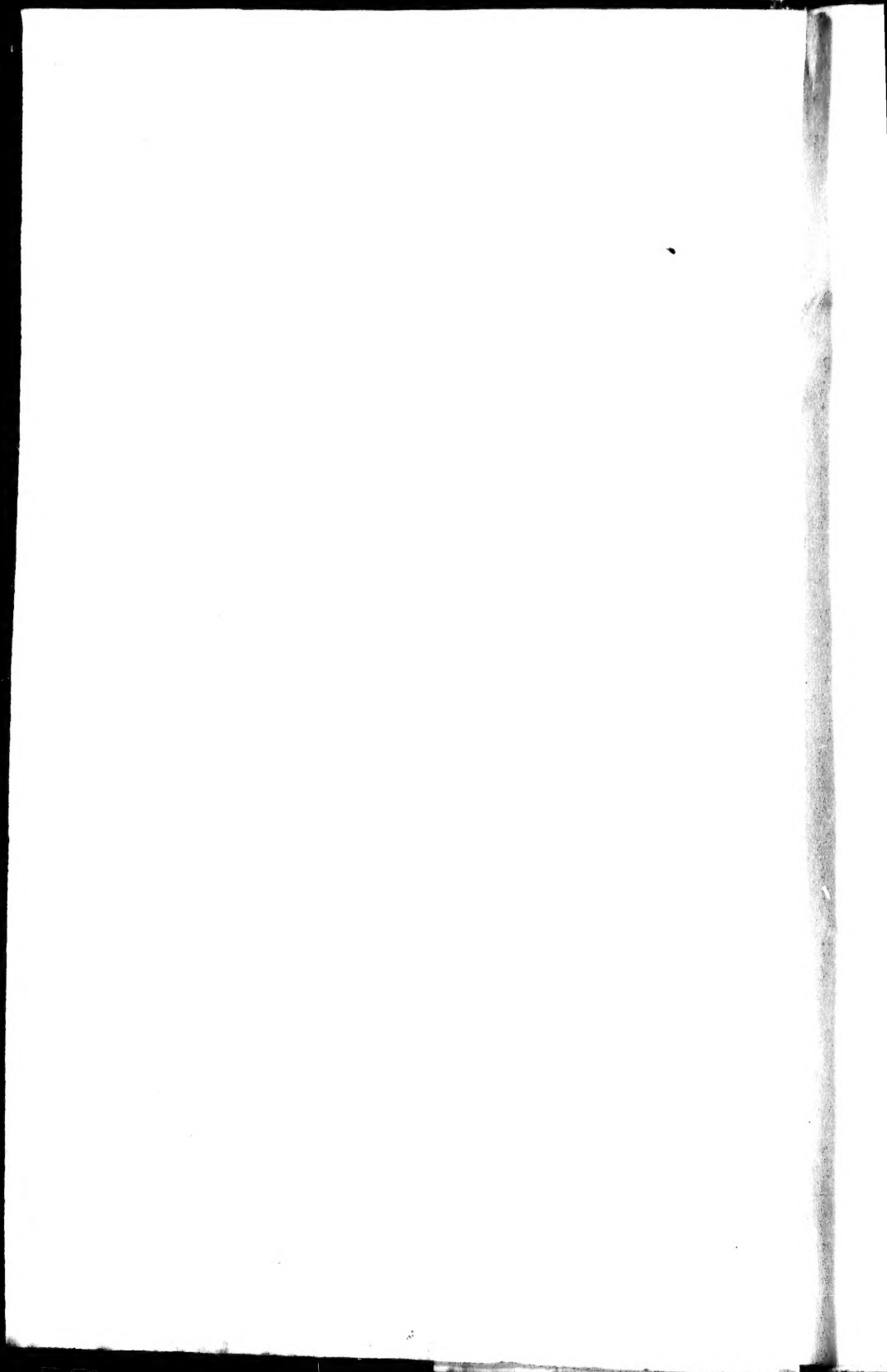




EMIGRATION REPORT,

&c.

James Burnham *S. Burnet*

THE REPORT
OF THE
SELECT COMMITTEE
ON
EMIGRATION
IN 1826,
WITH
A BRIEF ANALYSIS
OF THE
EVIDENCE AND APPENDIX.

LONDON:
JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET.

MDCCCXXVII.

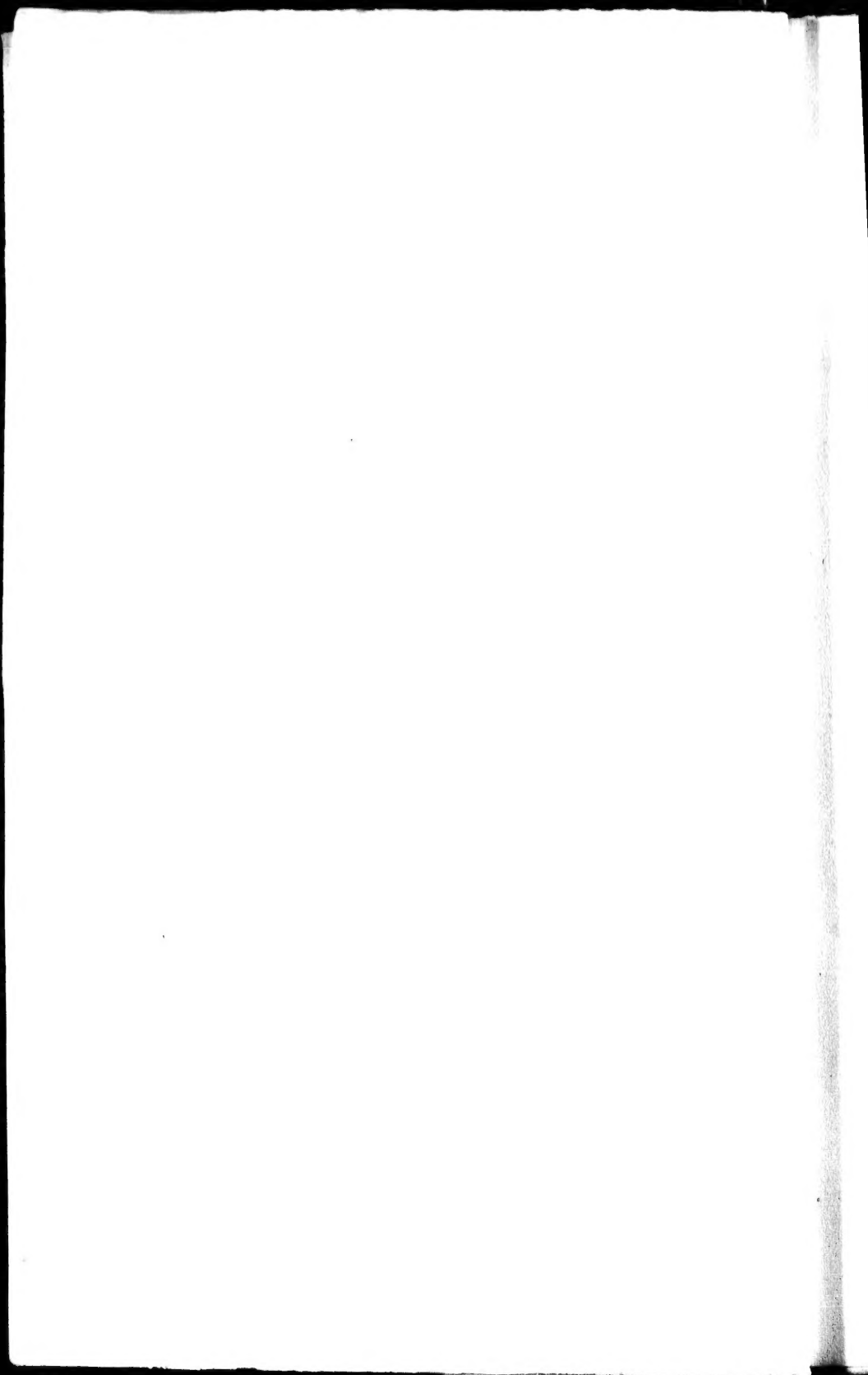
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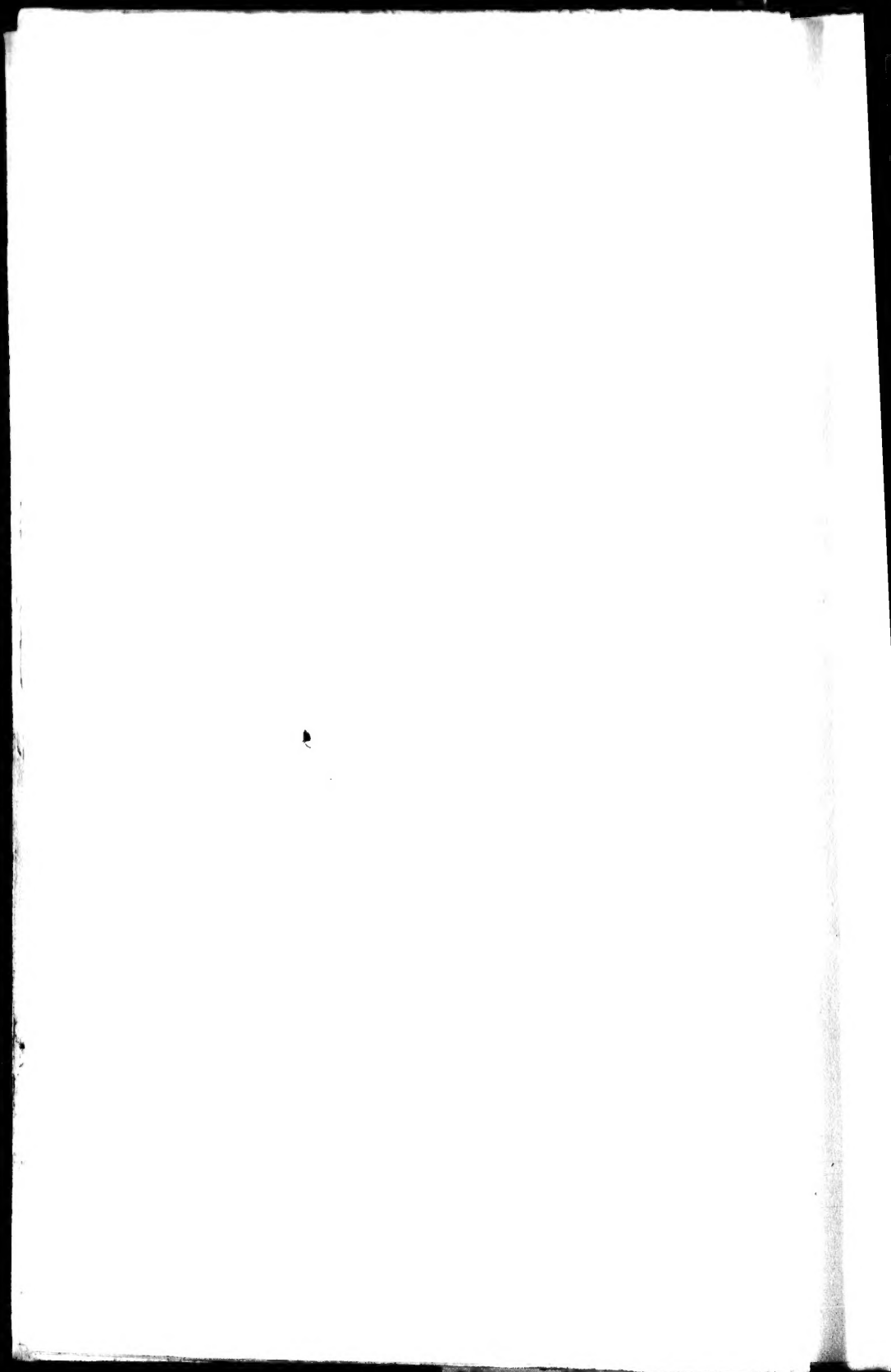
PREFACE.

It has been thought convenient, for the information of the Public, to prepare a careful analysis of the Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Emigration of 1826, and of the Appendix to the Report and Evidence, as those documents, containing a mass of the most valuable information, must necessarily, from their size, be very formidable to the ordinary class of readers.



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R E P O R T.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE appointed to inquire into the Expediency of encouraging Emigration from the United Kingdom, and to report their Observations thereupon to The House; and to whom the Reports of Sessions 1823, 1824, and 1825, on the State of *Ireland*, and the Employment of the Poor there; and also the Petitions and Memorials to the Colonial Department from Persons desirous of emigrating from the United Kingdom, were severally referred:—H^{AVE}, pursuant to the Order of the House, examined the Matters to them referred; and have agreed to the following REPORT:—

YOUR Committee are induced to consider that the following important Facts have been established by the Evidence which they have collected for the information of the House:—

First:—That there are extensive districts in Ireland, and districts in England and Scotland, where the population is at the present moment redundant; in other words, where there exists a very considerable proportion of able-bodied and active labourers, beyond that number to which any existing demand for labour can afford employ-

ment:—That the effect of this redundancy is not only to reduce a part of this population to a great degree of destitution and misery, but also to deteriorate the general condition of the labouring classes:—That by its producing a supply of labour in excess as compared with the demand, the wages of labour are necessarily reduced to a minimum, which is utterly insufficient to supply that population with those means of support and subsistence which are necessary to secure a healthy and satisfactory condition of the Community:—That in England, this redundant population has been in part supported by a parochial rate, which, according to the Reports and Evidence of former Committees specially appointed to consider the subject, threatens in its extreme tendency to absorb the whole rental of the Country; and that in Ireland, where no such parochial rate exists by law, and where the redundancy is found in a still greater degree, a considerable part of the population is dependent for the means of support on the precarious source of charity, or is compelled to resort to habits of plunder and spoliation for the actual means of subsistence.

Secondly:—That in the British Colonies in North America (including the Canadas, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward's Island) at the Cape of Good Hope, and in New South Wales, and Van Diemen's Land, there are tracts of unappropriated land of the most fertile

quality, capable of receiving and subsisting any proportion of the redundant population of this country, for whose conveyance thither, means could be found at any time, present or future.

Thirdly:—That while the English, Scotch and Irish evidence taken before your Committee appears to establish the fact, that this redundant population is practically found to repress the industry, and even sometimes to endanger the peace of the mother-country; the Colonial evidence which has been taken by Your Committee uniformly concurs in the opinion, that the industry and the safety of the Colonies will be materially encouraged and preserved by the reception of this population. The unemployed labourer at home necessarily consumes more than he produces, and the national wealth is diminished in that proportion. When transferred to new countries, where soil of the first quality of fertility is unappropriated, and where the rate of wages is consequently high, it will be found that he produces infinitely more than he consumes, and the national wealth will be increased by the change, if the Colonies are to be considered as integral parts of the nation at large.

If the foregoing positions be correct, your Committee feel justified in recommending the subject of Emigration to the most serious and deliberate consideration of the House, as one obvious and immediate measure for correcting in some degree this redundancy of population, and for mitigating

the numerous evils which appear to result from its existence. But in the prosecution of their examination of this most important and comparatively unexamined subject, they have not had either the time or the opportunity to perfect that scope of inquiry which would justify them in offering to the House any *specific* recommendations, with respect to the manner in which it might be convenient to make any experiment of Emigration on an extended scale; they therefore propose to limit themselves to an exposition of the principles by which the examination of the evidence taken before them has been uniformly directed, and to a short enumeration of the points which have formed distinct objects of inquiry.

They have considered that no system of Emigration could be recommended to the attention of Parliament, which was not *essentially voluntary* on the part of the Emigrants, and which did not relate to that part of the community which may be considered to be in a state of *permanent pauperism*. They also consider, that it would be in the highest degree desirable that any expense incurred for the purpose of Emigration, to be contributed from national funds, should be ultimately repaid; so that no gratuitous expenditure should be necessary, except in cases which might justifiably be made exceptions to the general rule. It is true the Emigrations carried into effect in 1823 and 1825, under the superintendence of Mr. Peter

Robinson, the details of which are to be found in the Appendix*, were supported by Parliamentary grants of money, for which no repayment was pledged; but those emigrations were necessary for the purpose of experiment, and the justification of employing public money for that purpose was specially pleaded, on the ground of their being experiments which were necessary to precede any more extended scheme. The principal, if not the only objections which were raised against these experiments, rested on the ground of the expenditure of public money which they involved being unrepaid.

Your Committee, therefore, did not pause to consider the question, whether the benefits which might be expected to accrue, both to the mother-country and to the Colonies, from a measure so calculated to benefit both parties, would be sufficient to justify an outlay of national capital; but they proceeded to satisfy themselves with respect to the actual expenditure incurred in the Emigration of 1823, (which, as an experiment, may be considered to have entirely succeeded,) and to ascertain whether an equal or a less expense incurred in subsequent Emigrations could be coupled with arrangements to supersede the necessity of any national outlay without repayment. In illustration of the views which they entertain on

* In Parliamentary Papers.

this part of the subject, they beg to refer to the following Extract from an original Paper which was laid before the Committee of 1823, on the Employment of the Poor in Ireland, which is given at length in the Appendix to this Report :—

“ It is considered as unquestionable, that, although this measure is not in the slightest degree compulsory, the poor man who offers his strength and energy as a labourer, but who, finding no demand, or at least no adequate demand, for his services, is compelled to receive ‘ parish relief’ for the preservation of his own existence and that of his family, will accept this opportunity of bettering his condition, by laying the foundation for future independence, with eagerness and gratitude, when sufficient time has elapsed, and proper pains been taken to make him understand the true nature and character of the change that is proposed for him.

“ It is equally considered as certain, that parishes will anxiously accept this facility (as far as their own concurrence is required) of relieving themselves, at a slight annual expense, of any present and pressing redundancy of population, and also of securing for the future the effectual prevention supplied by this measure for any accumulation of labourers whose services they may be incapable of remunerating.

“ It is at once evident that this system of emigration could be made immediately applicable to

Ireland and Scotland, provided that money was raised there for the purpose by local assessment, or that a specific tax was pledged for money lent for that purpose by the Government.

“ Although it may be argued, that there can be no actual redundancy of population as long as the waste lands in the mother-country remain uncultivated, yet no person conversant with such subjects can contend that such redundancy does not now, virtually at least, exist ; in other words, that there are not many strong labouring men for whose services there is no adequate demand, and who cannot be employed upon any productive labour that will pay the expenses of production ; and if any person should feel alarm, that, under the operation of such a measure, too great a proportion of the population might be abstracted, they may rest assured not only that this measure can be suspended or limited at any time, but that, in point of fact, it has that suspensive power within itself ; for, whenever there should exist at home an adequate demand for the services of able-bodied men out of employ, whether from the increase of productive industry or from the demands of war, or from any other cause, there would be no longer a temptation to emigrate.

“ It is also observed, that with such a system in regular and effective operation, no inconvenience could ever again result to this country from a temporary stimulus being given at any time to the population which could not permanently be sus-

tained. It must not be forgotten, in a comprehensive view of such a system, that the pauper for whose labour no remuneration can be afforded at home, will be transmuted by this process into an independent proprietor, and at no distant period will become a consumer of the manufactured articles of his native country; nor, on the other hand, can any calculable period be assigned for the termination of such a system, until all the colonies of the British empire are saturated, and millions added to those who speak the English language, and carry with them the liberty and the laws and sympathies of their native country.

“Such a system would direct the tide of emigration towards parts of the British empire which must be considered as integral, though separated by geographical position. The defence of these colonial possessions would be more easily supplied within themselves, and their increasing prosperity would not only relieve the mother-country from pecuniary demands that are now indispensable, but that prosperity, in its re-action, would augment the wealth and the resources of the mother-country itself.”

The number of emigrants sent out in 1823 was 182 men, 143 women, 57 boys between fourteen and eighteen, and 186 children under fourteen, forming together an aggregate of 568. The expense *actually incurred* for this emigration amounted, as will be seen in the Appendix, to 12,593*l.* 3*s.* which

was at the rate of 22*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* per head; the Estimate on which the vote was taken was at the rate of 80*l.* per family, taking the proportion of a man, a woman, and two children for each family. That Estimate had been calculated with reference to the following details: a man 35*l.*, a woman 25*l.*, two children 14*l.* each, forming a total of 88*l.*, from which deduction had been made of a little more than 9 per cent., on the supposition that a combined emigration would be found to be less expensive than an individual case; but the total absence of all previous preparations, and a high rate of passage, carried the actual expense beyond the Estimate. It will however be observed, with respect to the emigrants actually sent out, that the men were beyond the proportion estimated: if that proportion had been preserved, the numbers would have been 142 men, 142 women, and 284 children, consequently the actual expense would have been 12,496*l.* instead of 13,347*l.*, and in that case the positive excess over the Estimate would have amounted to 1136*l.*.—Various reasons have induced your Committee to make their calculations at the rate of 20*l.* per head: in making their calculations at that rate, which has peculiar relation to the colony of Upper Canada, your Committee beg it may be distinctly understood, that they are by no means prepared to express an opinion that an emigration might not be carried on to Upper Canada at a still less rate of expense; for by taking the

proportion in each family at 3 children, which your Committee have reason to believe would be found to be a more accurate proportion than 2 children to each family, the expense would necessarily be reduced in proportion. But your Committee are also of opinion that previous arrangements, contracts upon an extended scale, especially if made for a series of years, and order and method introduced into the whole of the system, would enable a less sum to effect that which has been actually effected in the case of the emigration of 1823, where no facilities existed, except in the assistance of the local government of Upper Canada, and in the zeal and exertions of the superintendent, Mr. Peter Robinson.

Your Committee would also observe, that the calculation of expense must necessarily vary in every different colony: the evidence shows that it would be diminished in Lower Canada, in New Brunswick, in Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward's Island; but if 80*l.* be taken as the maximum expense necessary to convey one man, one woman, and *two children* only to Upper Canada, and if the evidence should show that "that maximum" can be repaid, it follows, *à fortiori*, that any minor expense can be repaid with greater ease.

With respect to New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land, the distance naturally creating so much additional expense in the passage, the calculations applicable to North America in no degree

whatever apply to these Colonies. With respect to the Cape, the only emigration contemplated has been an emigration of labourers rather than of colonists ; which equally makes the calculation of Upper Canada inapplicable to that Colony. Your Committee have supposed that the sum of 80% could be raised on annuity of 3*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.* for sixty years, interest being taken at four per cent. ; and under the supposition that such an annuity could be raised, their inquiries were directed to the question, whether, supposing that the payment of such annuity for the first seven years were secured, the situation of the emigrant head of a family would be such as to enable him to undertake the payment of this annuity for the remainder of the period, in liquidation of the debt contracted by him for his removal from the mother-country to the colony, and this without any prejudice or inconvenience to himself, it being provided, as a necessary collateral arrangement, that he might redeem that annuity at any time on the common principles of redemption, thereby freeing his land from the charges which otherwise would contingently attach to it.

An examination of the evidence before your Committee will show that a large majority of the evidence which has been obtained upon this subject is in favour of such a repayment being practicable, and that there would be little difficulty in collecting it, provided it were to be clearly explained that it was in the nature of a repayment of a debt con-

tracted, rather than in the character of rent for land.

It will also be found to be generally stated, that in the case of an emigrant leaving the land at the expiration of seven years, when the repayment by the terms of the proposition would commence, the improvement of his cultivation for seven years would make the land itself an adequate security for such repayment.

It may be necessary to mention in this place, that with respect to the sum advanced by the emigrant, your Committee never contemplated an actual repayment of money to be transmitted to England, but a payment which should be applied in the Colony for purposes which it is now necessary to defray exclusively from the funds of the Mother-country. In pursuing the subject in this point of view, your Committee were not only influenced by the consideration of the advantage of securing a practical repayment of any money which might be supplied from the national funds for this national object, but also by the conviction that the industry of the emigrant would be more effectually stimulated and confirmed by subjecting him to the repayment of the greater part of the debt incurred, the particulars and nature of which debt could be distinctly explained to him previously to his being received as a candidate for emigration, and which debt, if it be duly analyzed, will not be found to differ in principle from any other debt which may be incurred

by any individual for the object of bettering his own condition and that of his family.

The inquiries of your Committee were then directed to the consideration, whether the payment of the annuity for the first period, namely, seven years, could be obtained from those parties at home who were specially benefited by the removal of the redundant population. Your Committee feel it hardly necessary to observe that the cases of England, Ireland, and Scotland essentially differ from each other in this respect. In England, the poor-rate affords an immediate fund which can be made applicable to the repayment of any expense incurred for emigration: the evidence of Mr. Hodges, the Chairman of the West Kent Quarter Sessions, is so copious and satisfactory upon this subject, that your Committee have only to call the particular attention of the House to it: and although Mr. Hodges' observations are limited to a particular district in Kent and Sussex, it will be found that the principle will apply generally to any part of England where a redundant population is found to exist. In Scotland a poor-rate exists, though so modified by local circumstances, and so varying in its practical execution, as to make it very doubtful whether it could be made applicable in the same manner as the English poor-rate for such repayment.

In Ireland the case is entirely different: nothing in the nature of a poor-rate exists by law; and

therefore voluntary consent on the part of the proprietors of land towards any contribution for the purpose of emigration, must there, as well as in Scotland, be indispensable. In the case of Ireland, whether such voluntary contribution were made by individuals, or by local assessments, to which individuals might be consentient, the principle of voluntary consent still remains necessary as part of the measure. Your Committee therefore beg to call the particular attention of the House to the very important evidence which they have received with respect to the state of that country. It will be found uniformly stated in that evidence, that the evils of pauperism are not less felt in Ireland in consequence of the non-existence of a parochial fund for the support of the poor; all the attributes of the most unbounded pauperism are to be found there; mendicancy, with all its train of evils, occasional outrage, habits of idleness, even in those for whose labour some demand exists, and a character of destitution and misery pervading all the lower classes of society. It is also to be observed, that in a pecuniary point of view an indirect burthen is imposed upon that part of the country where a redundant population exists. Your Committee therefore trust that the most deliberate attention of the Proprietors of land in Ireland will be called to this subject, and that they may be induced to make voluntary contributions for the purpose of emigration, as a relief from those burthens which, though

not legally imposed, are yet found practically to press upon them, from the superabundance of the pauper population.

Your Committee at the same time are fully aware that neither the parishes in England or in Scotland, nor districts or proprietors of land in Ireland, will be induced to contribute for this purpose, *unless it can be demonstrably shown that their interests, both general and pecuniary, will be benefited by such contribution.* Your Committee have no hesitation in expressing their opinion, that the general tenour of the evidence received by them justifies the expectation that such benefit will be thereby derived.

There is however one special point of view with respect to Ireland, to which your Committee feel it necessary to call the attention of the House: it is that of a proprietor who is legally entitled to eject a redundant pauper population, which has been surreptitiously introduced into his property, but who, at the same time that he feels that his own interest and that of his family are materially involved in the removal of this population, shrinks from the exercise of his undoubted legal right, from his dread of the consequences which must attach to them from their removal.

In such a state of circumstances, which your Committee have reason to believe is not of unfrequent occurrence, they cannot but contemplate the public advantage that would be derived from enabling such a measure on the part of an individual

to be carried into effect, to the mutual benefit of the party dispossessing and of the party dispossessed; and they entertain the most confident expectation that a careful examination into this part of the subject, on the part of the Irish proprietors, will convince them that their own interests will be consulted by a contribution towards the expense of the emigration of such tenants.

With reference to this particular part of the subject, your Committee beg to advert to an Act passed in the present Session, entitled, "An Act to amend the Law of Ireland respecting the Assignment and Sub-letting of Lands and Tenements." This Act was specially founded upon the evidence taken before the Committees on the state of Ireland, and has met with the entire concurrence of both Houses of Parliament. It provides against the recurrence of the evil which has been described in the preceding paragraphs. But the House will not fail to remark, that all the advantages that may be derived from this Act will be diminished, if not rendered absolutely nugatory, unless a well organized system of Emigration should be established concurrently with the measure itself. With respect to the disposition of the tenantry ejected under such circumstances, your Committee have to observe, that the uniform testimony they have received from the evidence, from the petitions submitted to them, and from other sources of information, has induced them to believe that the knowledge, which is now

generally disseminated, of the advantages which the emigrants of 1823 and 1825 have experienced, will be sufficient to induce not only any paupers who may be ejected under such circumstances, but all of the more destitute classes of the population in Ireland, to avail themselves with the utmost gratitude of any facilities which may be afforded for emigration. On this point your Committee beg to transcribe an extract from a letter addressed by Colonel Talbot, the founder of the Talbot Settlement in Upper Canada, to a member of your Committee, with respect to the Emigration of 1823 and 1825:—

“ I accompanied Sir Peregrine Maitland last winter
“ on a tour of inspection to the new Irish emigrant
“ settlements, about 100 miles below York. I was
“ anxious to see how they were getting on, and
“ whether the scheme of transporting the poor of
“ Ireland to this country was likely to prove bene-
“ ficial or not, and was happy to find them doing
“ admirably. These people were sent out last
“ summer, about 2,000 souls, and did not get on
“ their land until late in November; all of them that
“ I saw had snug log huts, and had chopped each
“ between three and four acres, and I have every
“ reason to think that they will realize a comfortable
“ independence in the course of this year, and be
“ of no further cost to the government; and it was
“ satisfactory to hear them expressing their grati-
“ tude for what was done for them.”

To revert to the subject of the repayment, by

the emigrants, of part of the expense incurred. Your Committee are fully aware that such repayment could alone be made practicable under the circumstances of an adequate market being found for the increased productions of the colonies, arising from the cultivation of the land by each successive series of emigrants ; they have, therefore, directed a very extensive examination into this particular branch of inquiry. The evidence of Mr. Uniacke upon this subject, as connected with the Fisheries, will be found to be very interesting and satisfactory.

Your Committee thought it of paramount importance to inquire whether the result of emigration on an extended scale, carried into effect from year to year by fresh importations of emigrants, would not involve a material diminution of the expense incurred in each successive year, with reference to the numbers emigrating ; and whether, in point of fact, a well-organized system of emigration, once established, would not carry itself on without extraneous assistance, or at least with assistance reduced to a very small amount, as compared with its original amount. Their inquiries, therefore, have been especially directed to this point ; and it will be found that the general tenour of the evidence is in favour of the probability of a material diminution of expense in each successive year.

Your Committee being fully aware that one popular objection which is continually offered to any

system of Emigration on an extended scale, is the argument, that the benefit would be only temporary, and that the temporary vacuum would be rapidly filled up; felt it necessary to direct their inquiries to the consideration of such collateral measures, both of a legislative and of a practical nature, as might be calculated to repress, if not to prevent, that tendency: they have therefore pursued their inquiries very extensively, and have been fortunate enough to collect very valuable evidence on this branch of the subject.

Your Committee were also aware that a popular objection exists to Emigration, on the ground, that the numbers to be taken away, for the purpose of producing any benefit, must be necessarily so great as to prevent the possibility of any practical measure sufficient for the purpose. Your Committee therefore (without expressing any opinion whatever on this point) have directed their inquiries to this investigation, as comprising an element of primary importance in the consideration of Emigration as a national measure.

This part of the subject may be illustrated by the following hypothetical statement. If a district be admitted to require only nine hundred labourers for its adequate cultivation, and if a thousand are found to exist there, who are all more or less employed, it is evident, whether the case be supposed to happen in England or in Ireland, that the fund for the remuneration of labour in that district is divided

among a thousand instead of nine hundred persons ; the consequence may and probably will be, that the whole one thousand will receive less than would be adequate to support them, and that they may *all* present an appearance of want and destitution ; but if one hundred labourers be removed from this district, and by that operation the supply of labour be proportioned to the real demand, the wages of labour will necessarily rise, and the condition of the remaining nine hundred may be materially improved ; and, what is of more importance, the actual work executed by those nine hundred labourers, in their improved condition, may and will be equal, if not superior, to that which was executed by the whole one thousand in their state of comparatively unremunerated service. In illustration of this subject, reference also may be made to the Report, printed in 1824, of the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the practice which prevails in some parts of the country, of paying the Wages of labour out of the Poor-rates, &c.

Your Committee observed, in the Report of the Committees appointed, in 1817 and 1819, to consider of the Poor Laws, that a strong opinion was expressed as to an extension, unlicensed by actual law, of the relief afforded to able-bodied paupers, under which much of the evils incident to the Poor Law system have been considered to arise ; and they thought it would be expedient to inquire in what manner and to what degree a well-organized

system of Emigration from England would facilitate the appropriation of the poor-rates according to their original application, as contended for by those Committees; and how far it might be found practicable to mortgage the poor-rates for the purpose of relieving the parishes from their superabundant population. They have therefore made particular inquiries on these points: and here they have again to revert to the valuable evidence of Mr. Hodges, who has shown that voluntary efforts have already been made for this special purpose; that, within his knowledge, parishes have furnished money from the poor-rates for the purpose of facilitating Emigration; and that the emigrants, availing themselves of those facilities, had proceeded to the United States of America. Your Committee presume that it would be unnecessary to argue in favour of any determination of Emigrants to our own colonies, provided it can be shown that the expense necessary to be incurred will not be so great as that which is necessary in their removal to the United States.

An application was made to your Committee by the Colombian Agricultural Association, with reference to the subject of receiving Emigrants on the lands located to them in Colombia; and your Committee beg to refer to the evidence of Sir Robert Wilson upon this point.

Your Committee beg also to inform the House, that, during the course of their investigation, they

received an application from Mr. Chambers, a Police Magistrate, requesting to be examined upon the subject of that numerous class of persons in the Metropolis, chiefly under age, who, being thrown upon the streets in perfect destitution, soon resort to crimes for their support. A class so numerous, and whose case is so lamentable, deserves the attention of Parliament as one of those special cases which must be either left to the benevolence of charitable institutions, or of Parliament, to supply those funds for the first period of emigration, which (as already explained) the Committee are disposed to recommend should be furnished by the individuals specially benefited by the removal of the Emigrants.

They would also beg to refer to the evidence of Mr. Bodkin, the secretary of the Mendicity Society, upon this subject.

It will be observed, from the examination of the Evidence, that in the event of any general measure of Emigration being carried into effect, it has been suggested to the Committee, that several legislative measures might, under certain modifications, be introduced as auxiliaries to the object: such, for example, as to enable parishes in England to mortgage their poor-rates for the purpose of forming a fund for the emigration of their poor; to enable tenants for life in Ireland and Scotland to charge their estates for that object; to enable parishes in Ireland and Scotland to effect a similar charge,

subject to the consent of some definite proportion of the contributors; to provide some means for regulating the erection of cottages in those agricultural parishes where rates may be mortgaged for the purposes of emigration*; to establish a Board of Emigration, with protectors of emigrants; to hold a lien on the lands allotted to the emigrants as a security until the original debt be liquidated, such lien to be in the nature of a land-tax, redeemable at any time at a certain rate of redemption; to legalise apprenticeships, in no case to exceed seven years, during which one-fourth of the wages received by the apprentice should be set apart by the master in liquidation of the expense incurred in the transport of the emigrant, such apprenticeships only to continue until that expense shall have been liquidated, and after that period the apprentice to be entirely free†.

Your Committee beg finally to express their decided conviction, that the circulation of their Report, and of the Minutes of Evidence, throughout the United Kingdom and the Colonies, will enable any future Committee to resume the subject, with the means of proposing measures sufficiently definite to justify their recommendation of them to the House for its adoption.

26 May, 1826.

* Vide Evidence of Mr. Hodges.

† Vide Evidence of Mr. Carlisle and Mr. Eager.

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ANALYSIS OF THE EVIDENCE

Given before the Select Committee of the House of Commons, relative to Emigration.

HENRY JOHN BOULTON, Esq.,

THE Solicitor-General of Upper Canada, having carefully read the evidence that has been given before the Irish Committees of 1823 and 1825, and being acquainted with its details, thinks it, generally speaking, very accurate*. He was not present at the location of the Irish emigrants sent out to the province of Upper Canada in 1823; but he had frequent conversation with them after they had been some time on their lands, particularly in consequence of a disturbance (and the only one which took place among them) soon after their settlement. He went there as public prosecutor, to bring them to justice; and though the sentence was severe, for the sake of example, yet he joined the presiding judge in recommending to the governor of the colony, the remission of the greater part of the punishment. He believes that this emigration has completely answered, and that the settlers are all perfectly satisfied with their situation, except perhaps fifteen or twenty worthless people, mostly young men, who had no ties to bind them, or who, finding that they were likely to be punished for the disturbances in which they had been engaged, thought it pru-

Mr.
Boulton.

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liamentary
Report.

* William Bowman Felton, Esq., the Rev. Dr. Strachan, George Markland, Esq., John Rolph, Esq., all concur in this opinion.

dent to abscond. With these exceptions, the emigrants are, in all respects, satisfied and doing well. Mr. Boulton has frequently heard them contrasting their present situation with that which they had left in Ireland, expressing the highest satisfaction at their change of circumstances, and recommending their friends to leave no stone unturned to join them; and he has seen forty or fifty letters written to their friends and relations in Ireland, full of those sentiments. The emigrants of 1823 were settled upon the river Mississippi, in the district of Bathurst, in the eastern part of the province; but those of 1825 are settled much higher up, in the Newcastle district, towards the centre of the colony. With provisions for one year, a cow, implements of husbandry, and aid in building a log-house, Mr. Boulton is of opinion, that the emigrants will proceed without any further assistance from the public; for he knows many that go upon their lands perfectly destitute, and yet succeed; and he has no doubt but that they would be able to pay 4*l.* per annum for their location of 100 acres, after a period of seven years. Under such favourable circumstances, they would soon acquire property, for they become quickly dexterous in the use of the axe; and an able-bodied industrious man can, without overworking himself, clear a fence, and put in crop ten acres of land in the course of twelve months. This crop would consist of Indian corn, wheat and potatoes; the acre would yield twenty or thirty bushels of wheat, notwithstanding the stumps of trees remaining on the ground. If emigration continue, the settlers will find a better market at their door from the strangers coming on their lots, and requiring provisions, than in the towns; and he has known 5*s.* paid for wheat back in the woods, when it would hardly fetch half

that sum on the Lake shore. Presuming that the emigrant would continue to make the usual improvements, he would, at the end of seven years, have seven or eight barrels of flour to spare, and for that he would get a great deal more than 4*l.*; for he never knew a barrel of flour sell at a lower price than 12*s.* 6*d.*; the average price throughout the country is 20*s.* provincial currency, equal to 18*s.* sterling. The farmer is the producer, and is at little expense in bringing his flour to market; for he uses his own team, and takes provisions for himself and provender for his cattle along with him. Indeed, that farmer must be very idle, who has not eight barrels of flour to dispose of at the end of seven years over and above what is sufficient for the maintenance of his family. There is a market in all the towns and villages for the produce of the settlers; for the shopkeepers, or merchants, residing in those places, buy it up with money or goods, and send to Montreal, for exportation, what is not required for home consumption: eight, which he mentioned as the number of barrels of flour which an emigrant could spare at the end of seven years, is not the result of any accurate calculation, but an accidental quantity; it is the very minimum, as he thinks it hardly possible that a man should have so little. He ought to have, in that time, thirty acres under improvement, a pair of horses with either a waggon, or cart, or some vehicle to carry his produce; two or three cows, a yoke of oxen, a comfortable house to live in, and plenty of wholesome food for himself and family. He has known countless instances of persons who had not a shilling in their pockets on their arrival, and even begged of him a meal of victuals, who, in a few years, were able to live comfortably, and could get credit for six or ten pounds

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worth of necessaries as readily as he could; nay, he has known many such persons, in the course of fifteen or twenty years, become men of considerable property, magistrates and members of the legislature, and at length forming a part of the aristocracy of the country nor does he conceive it possible that a man of common industry, having 100 acres of land, can be unable to pay a quit-rent of 4*l.* per annum. Archdeacon Strachan, concurring in the foregoing part of Mr.

Page 157. Boulton's evidence, says, that a short time before he left Upper Canada, he had occasion to go to the eastern part of the province, and in passing through the village of Brockville, he saw two or three of the emigrants of 1823, who seemed extremely well pleased with their situation, and had come to sell their produce; he was given to understand that many of them had a surplus, and that one family had twenty-three barrels of flour to dispose of. He also learned that they had gained the good opinion of their neighbours, who looked upon them at first with suspicion. They could sell their produce at Perth, which is the town nearest their settlement, but they frequently come to Brockville, which is situated on the banks of the St. Lawrence, in expectation of getting a better price. In disposing of their produce they commonly get half in money and half in goods. In regard to the single family that had

Page 158. so much greater a quantity of flour than the rest, it must have arisen from their superior industry; for it was always understood that the emigration of 1823 had no means except what was furnished by government; and he is decidedly of opinion that any settler, who attends to his farm, may, after a period of seven years, have twenty barrels of flour for sale; which, calculating at the price of 20*s.*, or 18*s.* sterling, per

barrel, will bring him, in the usual way of dealing, 9*l.* in goods and 9*l.* in money. Nor can there be any doubt of the emigrant settlers being able to repay by instalments the capital advanced in placing them upon their lands, to commence at the end of seven years; but it must be considered the interest of a debt which he may redeem, and not rent, for there is a strong prejudice against the name of rent. The people of the country are accustomed to pay interest on their purchases, and if that interest be lower than what is usual, they will perceive the advantage, and pay it more readily. As the settlers would certainly have the ability, it is hoped that they would have the disposition; but were it otherwise, the improved land would more than pay the advance, and be a sufficient security that the parties would rather pay the debt than forsake their farms. Mr. Boulton says, that an old settler, having a hundred and fifty acres of land, would not find the slightest difficulty in paying a quit-rent of 3*l.* 10*s.* per annum; for many such persons incur debts to the amount of 40*l.* or 50*l.*, and discharge them honestly; but there are considerable prejudices against renting land, because a man of common industry can easily acquire land of his own: call it interest, with the power of paying up the capital, and all prejudice is removed. The very name of even a pepper-corn for rent, says the Attorney-General of Nova Scotia, is revolted against; talk of interest of money, and then everybody will meet you; but when you put it in the shape of rent, though it is but a pepper-corn, a man would say, I did not come here to pay rent; but if you were to say I paid 50*l.* for settling you here, he would say, I will repay you the 50*l.* and the interest upon it. Mr. Boulton states that

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Page 16. the European emigrants, and others who purchase, commonly undertake to pay for their lands in six or seven years, with annual interest at six per cent. They live upon their lots some portion of the year, to put in a crop sufficient for their families, and then go in search of labour; and, if industrious, they will get between 2*l.* and 3*l.* a month. After a few months they return with their savings, 7*l.* or 8*l.* perhaps, which they pay their landlord. In this way many complete their payments in six or seven years; but should they not pay up the whole in the stipulated time, the proprietor extends it, if the interest is regularly paid, and the improvements are proceeding. Instances of people being driven off are rare, and with a little time they generally complete their purchase. The price of such land depends more upon the situation than the goodness of the soil, being from one to four and five dollars per acre,—nor is the land any better, though it may be more convenient, than that prepared for locating the settlers;—for the lands which remain unlocated are equally good with those already settled, only requiring roads and inhabitants. Plains without timber, of which there are some in Upper Canada, are not desirable, because they are not considered the best land. The natives prefer heavy to light timbered land, because it indicates a better soil. The province of Upper Canada is generally healthy. Towards the western extremity, along the borders of St. Clair, the settlers are liable in summer to fever, not in itself malignant, but often very tedious. The occasional unhealthiness of this part of the province is attributed to its flatness—it resembles very much the adjacent portions of the United States: the streams of water run sluggishly, and springs are not so abundant as in other places; but it is supposed

by many of the old inhabitants to get more healthy as it becomes settled.

In regard to York, against which some prejudices have prevailed, the number of families who have lived there long without any serious illness proves it healthy. The marsh adjacent to the eastern part of the town affects the people living near it more frequently with fever and ague than those at a distance; but the new comers that are afflicted, owe their disease to want and privations, rather than the climate. The fever and ague, which attacks the emigrant settlers, does not always spare the old inhabitants; but it is not considered a dangerous, though sometimes a tedious, disease. The circulation of money is circumscribed, but as we approach York, the seat of government, where the provincial bank is established, it appears more plentiful. Barter most commonly prevails among the farmers, who exchange their produce with the shop-keeper, for clothes, groceries, and necessaries; if the settler demands money, he does not get quite so high a price for his produce, for there is a difference in all transactions in North America between the cash and the barter price, because the merchant can afford to increase the price he gives for produce, in proportion to the profit he gets on the sale of his commodities.

There is one bank in Upper, and three in Lower, Canada, which issue paper as low as a dollar, or 4s. 6d. sterling, but which passes in the province at 5s. The first hut, or log-house, which the settler builds, as to its comfort, depends upon his industry and cleanliness, but he generally builds a good frame-house at the end of seven or eight years. The tax on a house of this sort is so minute that it never can become a motive to deter him from building. Mr. Boulton says, that it is

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*a common practice among the emigrants to save a little money, to assist their friends and relations in coming out ; and the Attorney-General of Nova Scotia (page 41) tells the Committee, that he has received more than 200*l.* from different persons to pay passages out, and he holds contributions from twenty-five families, equal to bring out two or three for each family ; of those twenty-five families, the first arrival might be about twelve years ago, when, perhaps, he laboured two or three years before he was able to settle ; from the period of his settlement it may be about nine years, but the witness believes that there are as many as three who have been able to send, within three or four years, funds to bring out some of their friends ; and from one he had 16*l.*, and from the other two 7*l.* or 8*l.* each.*

Mr. Boulton (page 19) has been upon the Lake Erie Canal, and has a book, containing a complete detail of its progress. It is already used to an extent beyond the most sanguine anticipation ; it now pays an enormous interest on the outlay, and it is expected to pay for itself in ten years. It, indeed, appears from

Page 165. Dr. Strachan's evidence, that the revenue, last year, amounted to five hundred thousand dollars. The capital expended in cutting it was eight million of dollars. Were it not for the canal now in progress, to connect Lakes Erie and Ontario, the whole traffic of the western portion of Upper Canada would pass to New York, but the canal on the British side will, when finished, turn the tide of business to Montreal ; and the inhabitants of the western provinces of the United States are as anxious that the Welland Canal should be finished as their own Erie Canal, because it would give them a choice of markets. The produc-

tions being in general bulky and heavy articles, the tendency would be to send them down the St. Lawrence on the completion of the Welland Canal, by means of which they can bring their freight nearly twelve hundred miles in the same vessel; now, in using the Erie Canal, they must unload at Buffalo, where it commences, and put their produce into boats. The Welland Canal is intended to admit ships of one hundred and twenty tons burthen, which is the size of those that commonly navigate Lakes Ontario and Erie; and such are its advantages, that a very great anxiety has been excited among the people connected with the Erie Canal, from the fear of losing a great part of their business; as it is demonstrable that produce can reach the Ocean much cheaper by the Welland than by the Erie Canal, and that conveyance which is found cheapest will prevail. The harbour in Lake Erie, where the Welland Canal begins, opens from three to six weeks earlier than the American Canal, so that our canal might convey much produce to Montreal every year before the Erie Canal can be open. Mr. Boulton has not taken into his consideration the locking-up of the St. Lawrence during so large a portion of the year, as compared with the Lake Erie Canal; but he apprehends, that although the port of New York, as an emporium, and for general commerce, has much the advantage of that of Quebec, yet in regard to exports the benefit is not so important, as the articles of produce are commonly prepared during winter, and are not ready much before the port of Quebec is usually open; besides, the Erie Canal is not much used from about the middle of November till the end of April, nor until late in May at its commencement. He is not well informed how long the na-

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vigation between Quebec and Lake Ontario remains frozen, but he thinks boats pass up early in May from Montreal to Kingston or Prescott. These boats are from four to thirty tons, and are poled up the different rapids; the larger are called Durham boats, and some of them, when empty, have been seen sailing with a strong easterly gale up some of the strongest rapids. The American canal does not enter Lake Ontario at Oswego; but there is a proposition in agitation for making a cut in that direction. The Americans cannot cut a canal on their side round the falls of the Niagara, with any thing like the same facility as we can; they speak indeed of a railway; but he does not think it would be of any service, provided their vessels are permitted to pass through the Welland Canal, without unnecessary restrictions; for which purpose, an act of the British parliament becomes necessary, to allow them to go through the canal without unloading. Dr. Strachan (pages 165 and 166) is decidedly of opinion, that the exports from the western part of Upper Canada will not go down the Erie Canal to New York, when the Welland Canal is finished, because it takes eight days to go down from Buffalo to New York at a considerable expense; and were it duty free, it would make no material difference, as the commodities could still be sent cheaper by the Welland Canal and the St. Lawrence, to Montreal. It is calculated, that the Welland Canal will be finished in a twelvemonth. If the capital should be taken all up, the total cost will be 180,000*l.* sterling, of which 90,000*l.*, or half, has been subscribed, 70,000*l.* in New York, the remainder in the Canadas. Mr. Boulton concludes this part of his evidence by remarking, that the most suitable time for the emigrant to arrive at his land, is about the first

Mr.
Boulton.
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week in September; he then avoids the heat of summer, has time to make himself comfortable before winter, to prepare land for a spring crop, and to have such a harvest as will enable him to get on comfortably without receiving more than one year's provision from Government.

WILLIAM BOWMAN FELTON, Esq.

Is a legislative councillor in the province of Lower Canada, and has read the evidence given before the Irish Committees in 1823 and 1825, which relates to emigrations to Canada, and, as far as his experience goes, it appears correct. But having never been in Upper Canada, he has not had an opportunity of seeing the emigrants of 1823 on their locations. He is acquainted with the desultory emigrations that come every year to Quebec from Ireland and Scotland.— Some proceed to Upper Canada immediately; others remain at Quebec and Montreal, where, during the summer, they find employment; and a few locate themselves in Lower Canada. The emigrant either gets land from the Crown, or purchases a lot; he employs himself the first winter in thrashing, chopping wood, or any other labour, and gains sufficient to support him, and provision for at least three months of the ensuing spring and summer. In the spring he clears land for potatoes, and sometimes Indian corn, and then contrives to pass the first twelve months on the produce of his ground and extra labour. It is, however, to be understood, that the country of which he is speaking is partially settled, and has a surplus of provisions, otherwise the destitute emigrants could not be employed;

Mr.
Felton.
Page 23.

for the labour of such is commonly paid for in produce, and not in money.

Page 24. From the want of roads in Lower Canada, the farmers in the back settlements have had great difficulty in going to market; but there has not been, within his experience, an actual want of market. The average produce in the more fertile parts of the province, even when covered with stumps, is twenty bushels of wheat per acre. It is usual to lay the land down in grass after a crop of wheat, and to mow it for even five years without manure, which is a sufficient proof of the fertility of the soil. At the expiration of this period the stumps of the hard wood are rotten sufficiently to admit of the plough tearing up the roots without difficulty. The settler then completely clears his land, but the average crop will not then exceed twelve bushels per acre.

To assist the settlers, as those of Mr. Robinson's were assisted, is, undoubtedly, the most sure and certain means that could be devised for establishing the people and improving the country; and with such aid, and under ordinary circumstances, there can be no doubt but that, at the expiration of seven years, the settler could pay a quit rent of 3*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.* per annum. The French Canadian inhabitants, who occupy, for the most part, a soil of much inferior quality, pay annually 7*s.* 8*d.* currency, and four bushels of wheat, for one hundred and sixty acres, and receive no assistance from government; and, besides, there is an alienation fine of one-twelfth the value of the land at every transfer. But settlers who purchase land at 7*s.* 6*d.* and 10*s.* per acre, in almost all cases pay the whole prime cost in the course of seven years.

Page 25. He speaks of Lower Canada only, the soil of which

is in general a stiff clay, and when it has been granted in Seigneuries it is often covered with water, and requires to be drained before it can be brought into cultivation. On such lands, under Canadian culture, the produce is almost too trifling to be mentioned, hardly exceeding seven bushels per acre.

The tithe in Lower Canada is one twenty-sixth of the clear grain delivered, paid only by Roman Catholics, the Protestants paying no tithe. The French Canadian rarely employs labourers, and if he does, seldom gives more than five dollars per month, besides board, washing, and lodging. The grain cultivated is chiefly wheat, and is worth 4s. per bushel.

The method for settling the country adopted by the French Government was to give a large tract to an individual, who was to parcel it out in small farms—to lay out roads, and build mills and keep the peace; and for his trouble he retained, for each farm, 7s. 8d. per annum, four bushels of grain as a rent, with one-twelfth the gross value at each transfer, and the toll of the mills at which the inhabitants of the Seigneury were obliged to grind their corn, so that the rent had no reference to the value of the land or any other advantage.

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There are many applications for land from the native Canadian population; but emigrant settlers dislike the Canadian tenure, and the figure of the lots being a narrow front with great depth, makes it impossible to make a convenient farm. The European and American settler will rather purchase land at 7s. 6d. or 10s. per acre, and pay the same in the course of seven or eight years, with interest, at 6l. per cent.; such purchasers have no other capital, except steady habits of labour, not always one month's provision before-hand, and yet

their industry carries them through; and, although there is little money circulation in these new districts, yet they pay for their land either in money or produce. Were the system of emigration to be carried on extensively, it would create a market in the vicinity of the new settlements; and as the communications rapidly improve where settlements are made, the distant markets soon become accessible.

Page 27. There are, in Lower Canada, two millions of acres of fair quality in the power of the crown. One million on the south side of the St. Lawrence, and one million on the north of that river, between the rear of the French Seigneuries, and a chain of mountains running parallel with the St. Lawrence. In this he does not include Gaspé, where there may be 200,000 acres available.

Page 28. In regard to tithes, they can only be demanded by the priests legally within the Seigneuries, from their Roman Catholic communicants. The Protestants are also liable within these lordships to pay them; but the law does not say who is to collect them or to whom they shall be delivered, and, therefore, they have never been demanded of Protestants.

Page 29. The French Canadian population are unwilling to go into the new townships on account of being deprived of the consolations of their religion.

Page 29. In some years the navigation of the St. Lawrence is closed, from the 18th or 20th November, to the latter end of April; but the periods frequently vary; nor do the seasons become milder, for, on the 1st February, 1826, the thermometer was forty degrees below zero at Quebec. There is a constant steam-boat navigation between Quebec and Montreal, in vessels of from 400 to 600 tons, for commerce and passengers; and in a short time all the commerce of the River St. Lawrence will

be thus carried on. It is to be feared that the project of applying steam to the navigation between Quebec and Halifax is abandoned ; but it is very desirable, as Halifax may be considered the natural entrepôt between the Canadas and the West Indies.

The power and prosperity of Lower Canada would be materially increased by an access of population through a judicious emigration,—the opinion, indeed, prevails amongst many respectable men in the province, that the Canadian population require all the spare land ; and it must be admitted, that they are too thickly placed on the land which they occupy, but that arises from the imperfection of the French law, dividing the property among all the children, by which estates are frittered into portions too small to support the proprietors. Page 30

He is of opinion, that if an emigrant, at the expiration of the seven years, left his land, the improvement would be a sufficient security, and he would make no scruple to become responsible for all failures ; for it is the interest of the settler to remain on the property he has cultivated.

Flax is sufficiently cultivated in Lower Canada, to clothe the majority of the inhabitants ; and hemp might be cultivated to advantage, was not the labour too high in preparing it for market.

CHARLES HAYES, Esq., formed extensive iron-works in Upper Canada, at Marmora, in the middle district, and resided in the colony six years. Had no opportunity of seeing any of the settlers who came over under the superintendence of Mr. Robinson. He thinks that, although the people of the province of Upper Canada have great objections to rents of any kind, yet if the

Mr.
Hayes.

Page 32. sum was definite, to be paid in seven or ten years, it would be more desirable; and that a settler of industrious habits could redeem much more than 3*l.* 10*s.* per annum. Mr. Hayes, therefore, suggests, that they should have the privilege of doing it as soon as they could.

Mr. Boulton. Mr. BOULTON, being asked what the effect was of raising the fees upon grants of land to settlers to 12*l.* upon 100 acres, and 30*l.* upon 200, answered, that it prevented persons from taking land to any extent. For persons representing themselves poor get 50 acres for nothing; and as there was no particular proof required, many who were able to pay the fees said that they were destitute, and got the paupers' allowance of 50 acres.

Page 33. He thinks the amount of fees became such a discouragement to persons settling in the country that it was found necessary to reduce them. But he is of opinion, that, under another name, the same amount, or more, might be given; for, in the Michigan territory, in the United States, a dollar and a quarter per acre is readily paid to Government by settlers. It used formerly to be granted on paying the purchase-money by instalments; but then the price was three dollars. Now the price is reduced, and no credit given. Mr. Boulton stated, that one of the difficulties of an emigrant in Upper Canada was, his having to go such a distance to the Land Office to get his grant; but afterwards admitted that this difficulty has been done away.

Dr. Strachan. DR. STRACHAN states, that the large fees above mentioned were to be paid in three instalments; but it did not affect the poor, and was soon discontinued,

because it was found not to answer the intended object, Page 203. which was to remunerate government for the money advanced in purchasing the land from the Indians; he likewise mentioned, that the officers of government, employed in preparing grants, never received any advantage from the augmentation of fees, but received the same allowance for their services which had been fixed at the first settlement of the province. He likewise stated, that since 1818, when the emigration began Page 202. to be very numerous, Sir Peregrine Maitland thought it would be inconvenient for so many to come to York, the seat of government, and therefore appointed land-boards in each district of the province, with power to give locations of 100 acres to all British subjects who could bring with them tolerable characters and recommendations.

GEORGE MARKLAND, Esq., is an Executive Coun- Mr. Mark-
sellor of Upper Canada, and a Canadian by birth; has land.
not seen the emigrants of 1823, but understands that Page 34.
they are managing exceedingly well, and are comfortable and happy; he has no doubt but that the emigrants can pay at the end of seven years 3*l.* 10*s.* But thinks that it should always be insisted upon yearly, without its being allowed to accumulate into a large debt. So little reason is there for believing that an emigrant would forsake his improvement when the 3*l.* 10*s.* became due, that the produce of an acre of cleared land Page 35. would more than doubly pay the rent. Upper Canada only wants people to render it of consequence, for the land is excellent and the climate admirable.

COLONEL JOHN READY is Lieutenant-Governor of Colonel
Prince Edward's Island, but has resided in Lower Ca- Ready.
Page 35.

nada for five years as Secretary to the Governor-in-Chief. He concurs in Mr. Felton's testimony ; and, having read the evidence of 1823 and 1825, is certainly of opinion that emigrants, at the expiration of seven years, would be able to pay without difficulty a quit-rent of *3*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.**, per annum. He has been in the district of Gaspé, and understands that there is in it a considerable proportion of very good land. He thinks that an emigration to Prince Edward's Island might be carried on at a less expense than to Upper Canada, because the transport is shorter ; perhaps *2*l.** a-head might be saved in the passage alone, with the advantage of being placed on their land the day after their arrival : so that the whole expense from Quebec to the Upper Province would also be saved ; and as no part of the island is above eight or ten miles from water-carriage, the settler would in all probability have a water-communication for his produce. The markets are Nova Scotia and Newfoundland. Prince Edward's Island is more suitable for the growth of corn than for any other production, and the average is twenty bushels per acre. The climate is very healthy, the country dry and well-watered ; but the ungranted land in the power of the crown does not exceed 25,000 acres. Colonel Ready, however, has reason to believe that many proprietors would be very willing to give up a large portion of their lands to the government, for the purpose of settlement, to the amount perhaps of 120,000 acres. He thinks that *50*l.** or *52*l.** would be sufficient to establish a family on their land in Prince Edward's Island : the quit-rent is *2*s.** per 100 acres, and rents demanded for the granted lands are from *5*l.** to *7*l.** per 100 acres.

Page 36. The returns made for the corn that is exported are

Page 37. West India produce, teas, British manufactured goods

of all descriptions; and from Newfoundland, rum and money.

RICHARD JOHN UNIACKE, Esq., one of His Majesty's Counsel, and Attorney-General for the Province of Nova Scotia, has read with great attention the evidence given before the Committees of 1823 and 1825, with respect to emigrations to Canada, and is of opinion that they may be conducted with greater advantage to Nova Scotia, because the passage will cost less, and the provisioning and providing for the settlers might be accomplished at less expense, perhaps one-third; he has frequently settled people himself, and is therefore well acquainted with the expense—and the difference between Nova Scotia would be at least one-half. Formerly, the passage from Scotland and Ireland to Nova Scotia was from 3*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*, including everything—it is now, by the operation of the laws, 10*l.* a-head; surgeons are required, and certain quantities of provisions, &c. These laws were no doubt founded on principles of humanity and benevolence, but in their operation they have been pernicious. The province of Nova Scotia could absorb every year from 1200 to 1500 emigrants. Sir James Kempt allotted land for settlers in Cape Breton, and immediately 300 came from the north of Scotland, whose passage did not exceed 2*l.* 10*s.*; for such people have a pound of oatmeal for every day that the captain calculates the passage; half this quantity for a child, half a pint of molasses, a little butter, and a few eggs. They pay the captain 30*s.* or 35*s.*, he finding them water. These people settled themselves on the land Sir James Kempt had allotted them, and I doubt whether there is in Scotland so happy a set of people. Mr. Uniacke thinks

Mr.
Uniacke.
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that any number of emigrants may be absorbed in Nova Scotia, if distributed judiciously, that is, not all thrown into one spot—even so many as from 15 to 20 thousand. When he speaks of Nova Scotia, he includes New Brunswick ; for whatever applies to the one applies to the other : and he thinks that the two provinces would well provide for a population of four or five millions, taking advantage of the fishing, coupled with the agriculture. The single men would hire themselves to the farmers or fishers ; and children are in great request. If the father and mother are unable to provide for them, they can always be provided for by putting them apprentices to farmers. The children are bound till of age, when of five years, or upwards. The farmer at the end of the first year gives the child a

Page 39. sheep, the second year a heifer-calf ; and as long as that child is under indenture, he is bound to preserve and to keep that sheep and that heifer-calf, and all the produce of it, till the child comes of age, and then it becomes a portion for that child to settle with—if a female, in marriage ; if a male, in forming stock. In fact, half

Page 40. the number of children can never be supplied that there is a demand for. Were, indeed, the population of Ireland allowed to go to Nova Scotia and New Brunswick as easily as to Newfoundland, they would go of themselves. They cannot collect 10*l.* or 12*l.* in money, but they might collect 30*s.* or 40*s.* ; and with potatoes, a bag of oatmeal, and a few herrings, they are ready for the voyage. Flour and pork they are unacquainted with, and cannot use. A great number of persons connected with his family came to Nova Scotia, from the neighbourhood of Waterford and Cork. Lord Dalhousie gave him the charge of a settlement, on which he placed them ; and they are now doing well, and are increased

to twenty-five families, and are yearly writing to their friends saying how comfortably they are placed ; *and their friends raise heaven and earth to join them.* In order to acquire stock, they hire a cow or calf for 20s. in the spring, which cow they return in calf the following spring. The calf which they have obtained becomes a cow, and has calves ; and so they gradually acquire cattle. They hire a sheep in the same way. Now these twenty-five families have sheep, cows, oxen, and horses.

In Nova Scotia, the lands are granted in common Page 427. socage, reserving 2s. to the King for every 100 acres, in the shape of quit-rent. The settlers on witness's land pay the interest of the stipulated price in money or labour ; in the same way the 3l. 9s. 6d. might be considered the interest of the money spent in settling the emigrant : in which case he will pay it readily ; but not willingly, in the shape of rent—and to secure it more effectually, an act might be passed to subject the land to the debt, whoever became purchasers. The principal markets are Newfoundland, Halifax, and St. John's, New Brunswick ; a great deal of flour comes from Quebec to Halifax, and is exported to the West Indies, but it does not stand the West Indian climate so well as that which comes from the southern provinces. He is not so well acquainted with Upper as with Page 42. Lower Canada. But the wheat raised in the latter province is a kind of red spring wheat, of an inferior quality. In Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, there may be about four millions of acres of ungranted land, but there is not more than the half of this good Page 43. land. From twenty to twenty-eight bushels of wheat may be deemed the average crop per acre. American flour comes in great quantities to Halifax, and were it

allowed to be landed in the West Indies from British ships, free of duty, we should have the long voyage, and the Americans the short one. The great object is to draw as much of the American produce into the English territory as possible, and to strip them of the carriage; and therefore he considers that the exemption of duty would be beneficial to the trade of British shipping, without being injurious to the state of agriculture in the northern colonies;—our climate and soil are capable of producing wheat in as large a quantity per acre as any part of the United States;—and he is confident that we should take away, in a great measure, the trade of the United States with the West Indies, but at present we cannot make an assorted cargo. The West Indian says, I have only to send my order to Boston, and it will be executed; but if I send my order to Halifax, I know that I can only get it partially executed. In these colonies we have the finest grass crops;—the only inconvenience is, that we are obliged to feed our cattle longer by hand than in England and Ireland; in other respects we have the advantage. We can raise Indian corn in Nova Scotia, which cannot be done in England. Mr. Uniacke says, that it is not so cold in Nova Scotia as in England; the frost is indeed harder, but it is not hard frost that makes cold. He has been an agriculturist for thirty-five or thirty-six years—has cleared from the original forest upwards of one thousand acres, which he has now put in grass, but it was originally in grain. The fisheries might be increased to an indefinite extent, and the South American states open an immense market. We have the command of all the best fishing stations, and possess advantages over the Americans which they cannot overcome. The British or Newfoundland fish are pre-

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ferred to the American;—nor would it be difficult to bring over the American fishers, and by such removal their navy would be knocked up. The American fishermen are more expert than ours, because they are much farther off, and are obliged to adopt more economical plans; but were they allowed to come with their vessels and fishing materials, and naturalised, they would bring their frugal habits with them, and our people, perceiving their advantage, would adopt them. Page 45.

In these provinces coal is found in abundance. In Cape Breton there is a mine that has been worked ever since the French time, and is capable of supplying all Europe. There is a valuable mine at Picton;—one at Truro;—two near the Gass River;—one at Subinacady River;—two at Cumberland, and an immense mass of coal within the province of Nova Scotia. The United States will, in all probability, become tributary to us for coal, as their own coal is not so convenient.

He has heard of the remonstrances made in the House of Commons against maintaining the civil government of the North American colonies; and he is satisfied that the British North American provinces will very soon pay the expense, not only of their civil but their military establishments, and become an important market for the commodities of Great Britain, for they are nearly equal in trade, shipping and population to the United States at the commencement of the revolution in 1774. Every emigrant will consume at least three pounds worth of something from the mother-country every year, and consequently increase the imports; but what is still of greater consequence, established upon the principles of humanity, which the committee have in view, the settler will transmit to his posterity a degree of

affection for the parent state, which will never be obliterated.

Page 46. Emigrants can go to Newfoundland much cheaper than to Nova Scotia, because there are no restrictions. In consequence of this many go first to Newfoundland, and then pay twenty shillings to get to Halifax, and this they obtain by hiring themselves to the fishing for a season, or part of one. The distress and poverty existing in Newfoundland arise from a very bad system. The master fisher is called a planter: he hires fishermen for the season at the cheapest possible rate, and at the end of the season the greater number are thrown into St. John without any means. Newfoundland has also suffered great injury from an impediment thrown in the way of settlement upon the land. There is a great deal of land on the island capable of settlement, and valuable settlements may also be made upon

Page 47. the Labrador shore. On this coast there is a fine fishery, not above a quarter of a mile from land, to which the Americans send annually seven or eight hundred vessels. The Americans conduct their fishery upon a system far superior to ours, but they likewise interfere very much with our fishermen, by taking up their nets, &c. They employ eighty thousand, and we hardly twenty thousand, notwithstanding our greater advantages. The harbour of Halifax is one of the finest in the world, and in the circle of thirty leagues there is a succession of the most commodious harbours.

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Mr. FELTON believes, that the unoccupied cultivable acres in Lower Canada do not exceed nine millions, but thinks the province would sustain six millions of wheat consumers. Mr. Boulton believes, that six or seven millions would not be an over population for Upper

Canada; and he is of opinion that the North American British provinces would admit of a population of twenty-five or thirty millions beyond their present inhabitants.

The facilities, with respect to freight, should govern-
ment be disposed to encourage emigration to the Can-
adas, are sufficient to convey (as Mr. Felton states) sixty thousand souls, without inconvenience. The casual emigration is about ten thousand souls, of which not more than five hundred remain in Lower Canada, and one thousand five hundred in Upper Canada, as far as his information goes. He accounts for this, on the ground of their coming without characters, and the colonists have no disposition to assist in their location. Wages are better in the United States, in consequence of the carrying on of public works; and many have friends and connexions in that country: but the emi-
grants of 1823 and 1825, from the benefits which they received from government, had no inducement to go away. He thinks, that, after adopting sufficient preliminary means, from twenty to thirty thousand souls, or from five to seven thousand heads of families, might be located in Lower Canada with advantage in 1827. The
preparations are, the survey of lands for their reception, opening roads and depôts of provisions. The provisions for a family of four persons would cost 20*l.*; but an extended scale of emigration would increase the facility without increasing the expenditure; and he adheres to his opinion, that, with proper preliminary measures, twenty thousand could be advantageously received in 1827, and they would be of great advantage to the province. He thinks that the six millions which he said, on a former day, the province could sustain, may be gradually, as conveniently, located as the

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twenty thousand in question. The ulterior settlements would necessarily be more remote ; but the advantage of good roads and dense settlement would be a full equivalent ; add to this, that a useful direction would then be given to Colonial emigration. *They would follow their friends and relatives sent out by Government, and this without putting the public to any expense, and indeed without much expense to their friends, for the demand for labour will be greatly increased.*

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In regard to Upper Canada, Mr. BOULTON thinks that 25,000 could be received in 1827 as easily as 2000 in 1825, and concurs with Mr. Felton as to the preliminary arrangements. *He is of opinion, that, after a certain period, emigration would carry on itself; for, if people were to come from every parish in Ireland and find themselves comfortable, they would write to their friends, and each nucleus of emigrants would have, as it were, a phalanx of friends to whom might be consigned the redundant population.* Mr. Boulton urges the propriety of allowing, duty free, the importation of American flour into Canada for re-exportation, upon much the same arguments as were used by Mr. Uniacke ; and in this Mr. Felton concurs on similar grounds. And he further states, that, on introducing 20,000 new settlers, there will be in the first year an increase of consumers beyond the increase of produce. In the second year it would make no difference, for, on the expiration of the first year, every new settler can support himself. Under favourable circumstances the man may, at the expiration of the third year, have something to spare, but we have no right to assume that he will—it is fair to assume that he will be five years before he has any thing to spare. The example that

Mr. Felton submits, assumes that the labourer is placed under the worst possible circumstances, and that he can merely raise provisions for his support till the expiration of seven years; but he knows practically that every settler is able to obtain so much surplus produce at the expiration of two or three years, as to pay the debt which he contracts with the neighbouring shopkeeper for the little conveniences which he requires, of pots, and kettles, and blankets, and so forth, but he usually pays it in the shape of pot and pearl ashes, which are made by the settler when, if he were not so occupied, he would be idling over his fire: it is done by extra exertion.

Mr. FELTON thinks that there will be no surplus produce to export while emigration continues on a large scale; but at the expiration of a certain period, when emigration ceases, there will be an increasing quantity of agricultural produce for exportation. At present it is as much as Lower Canada can do to feed her own population, for the quantity of wheat exported by a population of 370,000 souls does not exceed two bushels per head, or 740,000; and they are in the mean time compelled to resort to the United States for supplies of salt provisions. It must, indeed, be admitted, that this disproportion of the produce is principally attributable to the density of population upon an exhausted soil, and must be confined to the French inhabitants. These observations have respect only to Lower Canada; but the circumstances of the Upper Province and that portion of the Lower Province held in fee and common socage being similar, he is of opinion that, when emigration shall cease, the surplus produce of these countries will be much beyond anything which the popula-

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Felton.
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tion will be able to consume. Assuming that there will be a surplus in consequence of the cessation of emigration, then if Great Britain is desirous that the people of the colonies shall clothe themselves with her manufactures, she must receive their produce, or they must manufacture for themselves; but he feels assured that if this emigration be commenced under favourable auspices, and be conducted with discretion and judgment, the increase of population will be such as to absorb all the surplus agricultural produce of the Canadas for many years to come. Mr. Felton states again his reason why American flour should be admitted into Canada

Page 60. free of duty for exportation, and considers it very easy to prevent its importation for home consumption; for it is next to impossible to smuggle any part of a cargo, even a barrel of flour, into the province, as the whole must come by water-carriage. The encouragement of British shipping and commerce would be great by the admission of American flour; but, exclusive of this, the colonies are useful in affording an asylum to the surplus population of Great Britain and Ireland, and in contributing to the maritime strength of the empire. Besides, the colonies would by this step be enabled to engross

Page 62. all the trade of the West Indies, both in provisions and timber. He is persuaded, that the whole supply of the West Indies might be furnished through the St. Lawrence; and he looks forward with perfect confidence

Page 63. to the period when the flour of Upper and Lower Canada will be equal to meet the American flour on equal terms in any part of the world. At present he relies upon the Gennessee flour, were the duty taken off, to furnish the West Indies; but Upper Canada being much more extensive than the Gennessee district, there can be no doubt that, when it is perfectly settled and

cultivated, its produce will come into the market on better terms than that of the Genesee, to which it is equal in quality.

Mr. UNIACKE being again called in, said, that the fisheries are capable of absorbing more agricultural produce than the Canadas can furnish for a hundred years, as the fisheries are an establishment that can be increased to any extent, for the market is unbounded. There are employed in the fisheries fifty thousand men, each of whom often require two or three barrels for their present supply, therefore the colonies are not able to supply any thing like the quantity required. At present the fisheries are chiefly supplied from the produce of the United States, paying a duty of 5s. per barrel: they receive a partial supply from Canada, but very small in proportion to their consumption; and Ireland furnishes beef, pork, and butter.

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Mr. BOULTON being called in, stated, that he had heard the emigrants notice, as one great advantage which they enjoyed in Upper Canada, that they had no tithes to pay, and that there was no distinction between one religious party and the other: they were free from any thing of that kind; and this absence of disqualification, on the ground of religion, weighed upon their minds in creating a feeling of gratification with their location in Canada. There are, indeed, no disqualifications on account of religion in the Canadas of any description.

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Mr. UNIACKE stated, that the fisheries of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick employed about twenty thousand men. The fisheries are conducted by capi-

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talists or individuals. The capitalist commonly uses vessels from forty to one hundred tons, and employs men at wages. There is another description of fishing carried on in boats near the shore, by persons who fish a great part of the summer, and at the same time

Page 65. carry on some small cultivation upon land. But none of the fisheries are carried on upon shares, as in the United States. In that country the owner of the vessel finds the ship, salt, and provisions; the men, the lines and the labour; and they divide the proceeds on the return of the vessel. Fish are termed green while they remain undried. The whole fishery of the United States is carried on upon shares: in whaleing it is the case; every man has his share, which depends upon the success of the voyage; and it is far the best system, yet several attempts to introduce it in the British fisheries have failed; the people prefer wages. Nova Scotia and New Brunswick may produce from two hundred and fifty thousand to three hundred thousand quintals of fish, and about two hundred and fifty thousand barrels. The quintal consists of one hundred pounds, not one hundred and twelve pounds: the barrel contains thirty-two gallons. The principal market for barrelled fish is the United States and the West Indies; the dried fish go to the Mediterranean, to Spain and Portugal, and the inferior to the West Indies; but there is now a great demand for dried fish in South America. Formerly a large portion of the fish imported into Spain and Portugal was re-shipped to their colonies in America; but now that these colonies are free, the fish go the direct course. The deranged state of the governments of South America makes the market less advantageous than it will be when things are settled; but he is of opinion that the markets for

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fish will increase as rapidly as we can increase the fishery. The Americans have no fishing ground of any consequence if they were excluded from our ground, and are so remote from the fishing, that we can make four voyages for their two; but they have advantages which make up; to them the whole world is open, and we are restricted. They get provisions cheaper, and coarse manufactures, such as fishermen use; while we depend on Great Britain. They are allowed to import hemp free from duty, from which they make lines and cordage; whereas hemp with us is subject to duty, which presses heavily on the fisheries and colonial navigation. The repeal of commercial restrictions is too recent to feel their effects, but they soon must be advantageous.

Mr. Uniacke does not believe that the difference between the coarse manufactures of the United States and those of England, with the exception of, perhaps, boots and shoes, will make it an object to prefer the former. In regard to the inhabitants of the Scilly Islands, he is of opinion that they might be removed with advantage to the Coast of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. They might be conveniently settled at Louisburg, which has a fine harbour, and is situated very advantageously for the fishery. A great number of Scotch fishermen have already gone to that country, where they carry on the herring and mackarel fishery, which does not require sea-vessels, but is carried on along the shore. The Bras d'Or Lake in Cape Breton, Canso, and the north side of Prince Edward's Island, are all particularly adapted for receiving colonies of that description. The fishing season in Newfoundland continues from the beginning of April to November; and during the winter months the fishermen are em-

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ployed in repairing their boats, and, with their wives and children, in making and mending their nets.

Page 69. The fishermen of Nova Scotia are much better off in winter than those of Newfoundland, because they have land, or greater means of employment; but the Act recently passed, permitting colonization in Newfoundland, and introducing better regulations between the planter and fishermen, will diminish the distress hitherto experienced by the fishermen on that island.

Mr. Uniacke doubts whether fishermen could give security for the payment of the interest of the money spent in taking them out, as they are a wandering description of people, and not fixed like agriculturists; but he is of opinion, that those sent out would be able, by one year's labour, to pay the expense, if it was so adjusted that their employers engaged to pay it.

Page 70. The fishermen should be sent out in the autumn, that they may have the winter to prepare for the ensuing fishery, as a good deal of preparation is necessary. In regard to these men, the expense of transport would be all that is necessary, for he knows a tract of country

Page 71. upon the eastern shore of Nova Scotia, where there were not twenty-five families, and now there are one thousand five hundred who have settled there, with a few exceptions, at their own expense; and the emigration was proceeding, till the new regulations made the expense of passage so great, as to put an end to it; but were the Act enforcing these regulations repealed, the emigration might again be resumed. And were each captain of a vessel to get 20s. or 10s. of premium for every passenger landed on the colonies in good health, it would be far better than the Parliamentary regulations. *Voluntary emi-*

Page 72. *gration is the thing that will remove the redundant*

population in this country ; and, if there were no obstructions, it would resume its former standard. The system of voluntary emigration used formerly to be conducted thus: those who could pay their passage out, went at once; those who could not, were called Redemptioners, and agreed to pay, on their arrival in Nova Scotia, 40s. or 3*l.* ; but, if they could not raise the money, the captain was at liberty to bind them for two or three years to some person willing to pay the sum agreed for. He has known Germans, and others, who have come out in this way, with 30*l.* or 40*l.* in their pockets, and served two or three years to persons for advancing their passage-money, that they might become acquainted with the country before they set up for themselves.

WALTER FREDERICK CAMPBELL, Esq., M.P., is acquainted with the northern part of the Hebrides, where the population may be said to be redundant ; they are employed in fishing and manufacturing kelp; he alludes chiefly to Tiree, Coll, Rum, and Mull, and the adjacent main land. The proprietors, instead of receiving rents, are, in times of scarcity, obliged to support the population; but if they were removed, farms might be enlarged instead of being divided; for, at present, a farmer, having sixty or a hundred acres of arable land, will give to each of his three or four sons, when they marry, a portion of his farm. These sons again divide, till the produce of the farm is insufficient to support the families living on it. The proprietors have, indeed, the power of preventing sub-letting, and Mr. Campbell has strictly forbidden it; but where the proprietors are not resident, divisions are more particularly carried on. There is a sort of affection in that country between

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landlord and tenant that would prevent the former from contributing for the removal of the latter, notwithstanding the inconvenience, unless it were clearly for his advantage. But if the redundant population were once removed, the landlords have suffered too much to admit of subdivisions in future. He has relieved himself, by persuading them to give up their land, and reside in villages with land enough for potatoes and a cow's grass; but some refuse to give up their farms: in such cases he would have been glad to have got them to emigrate, and would have advanced a moderate sum of money for the purpose, provided

Page 75. the bonus held out to them was advantageous, how much he cannot say; in some instances he might have given 3*l.* each; but his situation is more favourable than that of many other proprietors, who would be induced to give more than he would. The disposition of many of the people is towards emigration; they would, in many instances, move heaven and earth to scrape the money together, if the landlord did not; and, as they have generally a cow and yearly calf, they would make up about 3*l.* each family, towards the expense. They are farmers as well as fishermen, but they pay their rent chiefly by making kelp: each family in Tiree makes about two tons, for which they receive at the rate of 2*l.* 10*s.* or 3*l.* A tolerably good cod and ling fishery was established by Mr. Campbell's father, and a herring fishery by himself, which are

Page 76. encouraged very much by the bounty. There is at present a certain degree of prejudice against emigration, as some had emigrated to America under speculators who took their little property from them, and having nothing to begin upon, could neither get land nor money, and returned completely beggars; but if

the bonus held out to them was such, that they had a chance of being made comfortable by their own labour, they would receive it as a very great boon.—By the term bonus, I mean receiving land and work.

Sir HUGH INNES, Bart., M.P., is not aware of any particular distress among the population of his own neighbourhood, but believes it exists in the manufacturing districts. The population of the district of which Sir Hugh speaks, is rather likely to become redundant than is so now. The people do not at present suffer much from want of food, which consists of oatmeal, potatoes, and herrings. They are chiefly dependent upon the fisheries, which cannot, he thinks, be much further extended. This observation more particularly relates to Lochalsh and Kintail. The inhabitants sell their herring, and buy meal; and the manufacturers of kelp import meal, which they pay their kelpers with in part, and in part money. Their habitations are, on the whole, comfortable. There is no poor-rate, but there is a small sum to distribute among the poor. The Society for British Fisheries gave an allotment of land to each occupant in their villages, consisting of one acre, for a garden, and a cow's grass. Nor does he think that this land withdraws the occupant from his fishing. Formerly the inhabitants subsisted more on the produce of land than latterly; but within the last thirty years the country has become more of a sheep country: to this, witness has himself contributed by establishing fishing stations; and the fisheries have tended to attract people to the coast. About two years ago there was a disposition to emigrate, and he took the liberty to suggest to his Majesty's Government, the making an allowance for their transport. Near one

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thousand persons went from the western coast, or, rather, from four to five parishes, of which some carried from 50%. to 150%. They went from choice; for a man in that country with 150%. may live very comfortably. The rise of rent may have operated a little; but chiefly the change from black cattle to sheep. He does not think that the landlords in that part of Scotland would contribute anything towards promoting emigration.

Page 80. Mr. G. GEORGE M'PHERSON, Esq., M.P., is not aware of any redundant population in the part of Scotland with which he is acquainted. It would be an advantage to him to convert his property into sheep-farms; but his feelings towards his tenants prevent him from removing them; and they live comfortably as regards their feelings, and are satisfied with oatmeal and potatoes. About a dozen, possessed of some property, emigrated from his lands about seventeen years ago; but in four years they returned disappointed, having lost their little property, which might amount to about 30%. or 40%. each.

Mr. Mr. BOULTON has read Mr. Felton's evidence, and made some notes upon it. He agrees decidedly in the propriety of limiting the introduction of the wheat of the United States through Lower Canada and Upper Canada also. He agrees also with Mr. Felton in desiring the free admission of American flour.

Mr. ROBERT JAMES CHAMBERS, Esq., is a police magistrate in the Borough of Southwark, a populous part of London. He is of opinion that a system of emigration would be productive of great benefit, for London is too full of children. The increase of juvenile of-

fences he attributes to this—to the want of employment for children, and their discharge from the ships or docks. By children, he means from twelve to twenty years of age, both male and female:—during the war the ratio of juvenile delinquency was not so great, as a great number of children were employed on board ships of war.

JOHN WILKS, Esq., the vestry clerk of St. Luke's, Mr. Wilks says, that among the pauper poor it is probable a considerable number would gladly send their children to Canada under the protection of government, to be provided for, and to relieve themselves from a burthen, which the increasing population of London, and the decreasing call for labour, render it difficult for them to sustain; and he thinks that the parishes in London which are in the habit of giving 5*l.* for apprentice fee, would very willingly facilitate the emigration of children. If there were an emigration from this country to Canada, the children might be apprenticed for five or seven years; it would be a great relief, and the parishes would contribute something towards it. He thinks that if the child and the parents were made aware that the child would receive a portion of land at the end of five or seven years, it would be a great inducement to go. He believes that the expenses would not be more than the parishes are willing to give. Many of these children are orphans and bastards, without any person to look after them—the consequence would be, a great diminution of infant crime. Besides pauper children from workhouses, he thinks that if parents saw that government was going to take their children under their protection, and that there was a prospect of their future welfare, they would be glad

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to offer their children for that purpose. He is also of opinion that the parishes would contribute to the removal of such children as are likely to become chargeable to them hereafter, and as population increases, emigration ought to keep pace with it. Emigration is, indeed, absolutely necessary for the welfare of the state; and if it were encouraged instead of being checked, scarcely any would abandon their country, but those who cannot find maintenance in it. As soon as emigration became so great as to leave the means of subsistence easy and plentiful to those that remain, it would naturally cease. The only good law against emigration is that which Nature has engraven on every heart.

Mr.
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Mr. FREDERICK CARLISLE is a resident at the Cape of Good Hope, where he has lived six years in the neighbourhood of Graham's town, district of Albany, and has been sent home to hire labourers, who are to receive at the rate of 12*l.* per annum, and their provisions, with a free passage, but no clothing:—he does not know how many Mr. Ingram took out, nor their condition, but they have remained chiefly in the neighbourhood of Cape town, and are employed as labourers and mechanics; mechanics get 10*s.* per day, and labourers 4*s.* or 5*s.*, and their support will cost 1*s.* 6*d.* or 2*s.* per day, and 3*s.* per day would include clothing; so that a labourer would clear 1*s.* per day. Their food consists of flesh meat of all kinds, good bread, and vegetables in abundance. The average expense of taking a man or woman from Ireland is about 15*l.* The climate is good, but the Dutch generally have slaves and Hot-tentots, and seldom employ English or Irish. The wages offered by the settlers to persons going out do

not approach near to the wages already given, and five hundred labourers going out, would have the immediate effect of lowering wages, but the depression would not continue. At the same time the settlers will not agree to pay the labourers sent out the wages that are at present given in the colony.

The number of women that might be taken out annually, might be from sixty to eighty, who would receive about 15s. per month, including provisions. He states, that unless the settlers can hire the labourers cheap, they would only employ three, where they have subscribed for ten, at the low rate of wages.

Mr. EDWARD EAGER is the author of a pamphlet, entitled "Letters" to the Right Honourable Robert Peel, on the advantages of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land, as penal settlements, and as colonies for the reception of poor emigrants." He calculates that a man, his wife, and three children, can be conveyed from England to New South Wales, and be located there for 150l.; and he proposes, prior to the reception of these emigrants, that convicts should be employed in building houses and inclosing locations for them; for as the convicts must be supported, this would not increase the expense to government.

At the time of writing his pamphlet, ten thousand convicts might have been so employed; and still five thousand, without interfering with their present employment, might be occupied in such labour. He proposes that a loan should be raised, bearing four per cent. interest, to be secured by stock created on the parish rates, and guaranteed by parliament, and that the rest of the expense should be reimbursed by the emigrants in the shape of rent, at the rate of 10l. for

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each farm, to commence at the end of the third year. He proposes that farms of thirty acres shall be prepared for the settler; that is, a house built of certain dimensions, and a certain quantity cleared and fenced, that the settler may begin cultivating when he arrives, and that no rent be charged till he is enabled by profitable cultivation, which he thinks from experience will be at the end of the third year.

Page 95. He gives the produce of maize at twenty-five bushels, of wheat sixteen bushels, of rye and barley twenty bushels; and upon virgin-land thirty of maize, twenty of wheat, and twenty-five of barley and rice; and he values them at 7*s.* for wheat, 3*s.* 6*d.* for maize, and 3*s.* for barley. Provisions cannot be imported at prices so low as these, for the colonists can supply His Majesty's magazines with beef at 3*d.* per lb., pork at 4*d.*, wheat at 7*s.*, maize at 3*s.* 6*d.*, per bushel; prices at which these articles cannot be, and never will be, imported. Surplus wheat cannot be exported from New South

Page 97. Wales to any other country, because the Indian market for the supply of rice and grain comes so immediately into competition with it; nor does he think the colony calculated to be a grain country; but the soil and climate are perfectly suited for other productions, such as wine, vegetable oils, flax, hemp, and tobacco. He does not think it desirable that New South Wales should manufacture the coarsest articles of manufactures, as they can be imported much cheaper. Two or three gentlemen have manufactured the coarse wool of their own estates for their own use, but it is more expensive than a superior article from England. The protection which he deems necessary to be given to the infant-produce of New South Wales, such as hemp, flax,

Page 97. tobacco, is a remission of the duties. The colony also

affords linseed, bark, and hides, and whale-oil; but it is so new, that notwithstanding the great fluctuation in the price of corn, it was only lately that emigrants began to come; and now they are trying other crops.

In his estimate, Mr. Eager supposes the rent of 10*l.* to be paid by the emigrant perpetual, though it may be remitted should Government choose. There is not sufficient employment for free labour; it is considerably more than the demand. In the town of Sydney the wages fluctuate, the labourer getting sometimes 3*s.* 6*d.*, or 2*s.* 6*d.*, or 2*s.*; and he supposes that unless emigrants went out with capital, they would not do at all. But were the assistance given that he proposes, they might be considered small capitalists.

The duties on hemp and flax are so trifling, that he thinks it would be no object to remove them; and a reduction of 1*s.* on tobacco he deems sufficient. With these advantages, and the cheapness of labour, and suitableness of the soil for these articles, he is certain that they might be cultivated to advantage.

Mr. HENRY BLISS, Agent for the Province of New Brunswick, concurs with Mr. Uniacke in the general expediency of emigration, and the advantage of extending it to Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick; but he does not agree with him in thinking the winter not severe, though he does not believe that this severity is any impediment to settlement. With respect to the number of emigrants that Mr. Uniacke says Nova Scotia might absorb, Mr. Bliss thinks him mistaken; because a great number do arrive at different parts, many of whom do not remain in the province; and he thinks that all those who go away are supernumeraries, whom the country cannot absorb *without the assistance*

Mr. Bliss.
Page 101.
18 April.

of capital. He believes that any person who is provided with capital enough to enable him to go into the woods, and to get a log-hut, and support for the first year, will certainly succeed if he is industrious; and he thinks that to New Brunswick the emigration might be extended with greater advantages than to any other colony; the passage is shorter, and opportunities more

Page 112. frequent than to Nova Scotia. Moreover, New Brunswick offers a larger quantity of vacant land than Nova Scotia, of a good description, and excellent situations.

Mr. Bliss's
second
evidence.

One of the greatest obstacles in a new country, is the want of roads, and difficulty of making them; but so universal is the water-communication throughout this province, that lots may be easily laid out upon or near some stream, which, besides supplying the want of roads, may afford convenient seats for mills, and fish for the settlers' support. The winter is colder, but the summer is warmer, than in Nova Scotia; nor is the severity of the winter any hinderance to the labour of the emigrant. On the contrary, the snow makes fine roads over the whole country; and as the frost continues uninterrupted, it gives him a great advantage in clearing his land. The settler buys cheap, if not cheaper, and sells dearer, than in the other colonies. The provincial legislature appropriates money every year for repairing and improving roads, and for giving a bounty to the settler for the first crop of corn raised upon his land. From these and other circumstances, and from witnessing the success of numerous emigrants, he has no doubt but the settler can, after seven years, repay the Government the charge incurred in his settlement; or, if he do not, that his improved lot is a sufficient security.

Mechanics, of all kinds, would find sufficient employ-

ment in the province, particularly carpenters and masons, who would receive wages from six to ten shillings per day; such emigrants require nothing but the expense of their passage, which they might repay in a twelvemonth.

The colonists have been able to exchange their trees with the mother-country for her manufactures; their fish with the West Indies for sugar, rum, and gold and silver; and even their stones for bread with the United States.

As to the colonies making provision for their civil and military establishments, if it were thought necessary by his Majesty's Government, they might assume the civil list; though not without inconvenience, and it were to be regretted, on many accounts, if such a requisition were at present made. It is but a small sum for Great Britain to pay, (for New Brunswick 7000*l*.) but important for the colony to receive. Were it withdrawn, too much of the provincial revenue would be diverted from the making of roads and bridges, improving the navigation of rivers, cutting canals, establishing schools,—objects of primary necessity in the planting of a new country, to which that revenue is now particularly devoted. The advancement of the colony would be retarded, and a check be given to the increase of consumption and importation, and the mother-country would lose more on the one hand than she would gain by saving on the other. Besides, the payment of the civil list is an important link in the connexion between the parent state and the colony; and if not the most powerful, is not the least alluring. I am far from insinuating that the connexion of the colony with the mother-country is to be principally valued for such a reason. The just and liberal go-

vernment of Great Britain has established this connexion by the ties of interest as well as affection, and it is the hope and wish of the colonies that it may long continue. Thus the emigrant, instead of a pauper becomes a proprietor, instead of hearing the revolting doctrine of checking population, every thing about him encourages the principle more consistent with the first law of nature, and the first precept of revelation, to increase and multiply. He leaves a sufficient provision for his children, and even grows rich with the growth of the province. He earnestly hopes, that the proposed plan will be executed on an extensive scale, and believes it will add to the stock of national wealth and human happiness.

Sir Robt.
Wilson.

Sir ROBERT WILSON, M. P., a member of the Company incorporated for the occupation of lands in Colombia, says, the voyage to Colombia takes forty days, and reckons the expense for a man 15*l.*, for a woman the same, children at fourteen years and under, 10*l.*, and at seven and under, 7*l.* 10*s.* The Company are prepared to make a certain portion of the land ready for settlers, and to build their houses; but besides assistance towards the passage, Sir Robert submits that the first expense of maintenance should not come upon the Company. The settlers require six months' provisions before the crops would be ready to maintain them, and if advanced by the Company must be repaid by the emigrant. The reports from the colony are very favourable, as to soil, fertility, and produce, and convenience of markets, which insure the immediate sale of the articles raised either for home consumption or exportation; and he believes that the settlers will be fully equal, not only to pay

the advance made in placing them on their lands, but also their passage out, and which they have hitherto engaged to do. After mentioning the different markets Page 103. to which the settlers will have access, Sir Robert Wilson says, that, exclusive of the expense of freight, the provisioning of the settler would be 15*d.* a-head per day for six months ; but this the Company expects the settler to repay. Many would not require it, or would purchase provisions for themselves; for the province of Maracaybo, in which the proposed settlement is situated, contains one hundred and seventy-five thousand inhabitants, so that the emigrants are not going to a wilderness, but to a country partially inhabited. There is no difficulty in finding provisions to purchase ; there is also fish in abundance in the lake, which is one hundred and fifty miles long, and ninety miles broad, in which vessels of any description may float. Sir Robert Wilson adds, that he is desired by the minister of Colombia to state, that according to instructions received from his government, he is most anxious to aid in every way, and to pledge the support of his government for the establishment of such settlers as either Government, or the Company under direction of the Government, may send out. He decidedly thinks, that the Maltese would be serviceable for the purpose of settlement in Colombia, from their laborious habits, sobriety of conduct, and capacity to resist the effects of a warm climate. He is not authorized to affirm, that the money employed in the transport and location of those settlers would be repaid by progressive instalments by the Company and the Colombian Government ; but he thinks, that there would be Page 103. no difficulty in making some conjoint engagement for that purpose. As to the number of settlers, the

Company would be anxious not to crowd them in the first instance: they have two hundred thousand acres of land at Gibraltar, near the lake, and shall have houses ready for three hundred settlers in November, when settlers ought to arrive in the country; but if a successive supply could be insured, buildings and lands could be prepared for any number that could be sent out. The lands belonging to the Company do not come down to the Lake of Maracaybo, but they have a navigable river, or a river that may be made navigable, running through the lands into the lake, and which would be useful for general trade, and the transport of mahogany and cedar, of which there is abundance in the neighbourhood. The Association has a million of acres at its disposition, but is desirous first to settle the district of Maracaybo, as the most conveniently situated. Free blacks would be very acceptable as settlers, as there is a scarcity of labouring population in the neighbouring districts, and they would be received on the same principle as the Maltese, namely, the repayment by the emigrant himself of the money advanced for his removal.

Mr. C.
Stuart.

Mr. CHARLES STUART is Secretary to the Colombian Agricultural Association, and entirely agrees with Sir Robert Wilson, except that Jamaica is only eight, not ten days' sail from Maracaybo. He has no doubt but that it would be very agreeable to the Association to receive free blacks, because they are acquainted with the mode of cultivation pursued in the British West India Islands.

Page 104.

Lt. Col.
Sorell.

Lieutenant-Colonel WILLIAM SORELL was lately Lieutenant-Governor of Van Diemen's Land: he has

read attentively Mr. Eager's pamphlet, and thinks the same observations apply generally to both, it being remembered that Van Diemen's Land is a more limited country. With the assistance, proposed by Mr. Eager, Page 104. he thinks that a settler, accustomed to agricultural labour, would be able to pay a rent, not in money, but in produce; for the uncertainty of the markets, and Page 105. the necessity of paying rent at a precise period, would make it impossible for the settler always to raise the money to meet the demand, but he would have no difficulty in paying it in produce. He thinks, that no practical difficulty would arise from Government taking the produce at a certain money value, that is, at the price of the Government contract. He does not think that the plan would succeed with persons not bred to agricultural occupations. There is a demand in Van Diemen's Land for mechanics, men capable of building, and such as are useful in a new country. Colonel Sorell further states, that if the produce bore a remunerating price, a man capable of working a farm would be able, at the end of the third year, to pay a rent of 10% in produce. Nor does he conceive that there would be any repugnance to pay rent, as appears to be the case in Upper Canada, because rents are paid in both New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land. A great many of the farms have been sold, and have passed into landlords' hands, who now let them at a rent payable in produce of so many bushels of wheat a year: perhaps, one-half of the small tillage farms are so rented. Failure in the wheat crop is almost unknown in Van Diemen's Land, though it was last year partially the case, owing to late sowing and an unusually dry spring. In the seven years of his government there was always a surplus, after meeting the

demand of an increasing population, from free emigration and importation of convicts, and a considerable

Page 106. export took place to Sydney, and, partially, to this province, the Isle of France, and the Cape of Good Hope. Taking the two colonies of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land together, the produce has been for many years more than sufficient for their subsistence. The climate of Van Diemen's Land does not admit of tropical productions; maize does not ripen; good tobacco has been produced; flax is on trial; wool

Page 106. may doubtless be improved to a fine quality; potatoes are raised of the finest kind; and hops succeed well. The exports to the mother-country are limited to wool, oil, skins, and tannin timber. Van Diemen's Land is better calculated for the production of wheat than New South Wales.

The want of mechanics is very great, and he thinks that many settlers would be pleased to receive them on indenture, and if their services were secured, there would be no difficulty in a pecuniary point of view; but mechanics might save one-fourth: and on the supposition that their wages amount to 5s. per day, and that their passage out, including wives and children, is

Page 107. 90l., the whole would be repaid in four or five years. Though he has little knowledge of New South Wales, he thinks that his observations and opinions, generally, with some local exceptions, will apply to both. Agricultural emigrants may succeed equally in either, and mechanics were in great demand in both. In regard to employing convicts in the clearing of lands, and in other occupations remote from towns, it is obviously one of the best things that can be desired, not only for its usefulness, but as promoting their reformation. He considers, that emigration to New South Wales is unli-

mitted ; in Van Diemen's Land it would have its limits ; but there is no difficulty, except the length of the voyage, and the expenses of it, that may not be got over, provided all those who are placed upon lands are of the class fitted by habit for agricultural occupation.

Mr. EDWARD EAGER, being again called, corroborated Colonel Sorell's testimony ; he then repeated his former evidence respecting the productions of New South Wales, the excellence of their climate, and the ability of mechanics and settlers to repay the money expended on their settlement. Having entered into a detailed account of their propriety of sending out women to the colony, as they are few in number, compared to the men, he comes to the conclusion, that if a certain number of females were properly selected and sent over, and confided to the care of Government, individuals would be ready and willing to marry them on the terms of furnishing, by instalments, the repayment of the expense of their passage.

Mr.
Eager.
Pages
108, 109,
110, 111.

EDWARD JEREMIAH CURTEIS, Esq., acts as Assistant Chairman at the Sessions of Sussex, and has been a Magistrate for nearly forty years, and is, consequently, well acquainted with the county. He thinks that there is a superfluity of labouring population ; but does not go the length of saying that it is unnecessary : he ascribes this superfluity to four causes ; three temporary and one permanent. The temporary causes are the failure of the country banks ; second, the great mortality among sheep ; third, the total failure of the hop crop last year. The permanent cause, the quantity of land which has gone out of cultivation from the want of capital, and the consequent distress

Mr. Cur-
teis.

and decay of the farmer; but if the land were full of cultivation, as formerly, and there were capital, there are not, in his opinion, more labourers than are required. Still everybody would say, that there was a great redundancy of labourers, at this time, in the eastern part of Sussex. He does not think that the wages of labour are unnecessarily paid by the poor-rate, though they are, in some degree, inevitably so paid; for both Magistrates and Overseers keep up the price of labour as much as possible.

The labourers receive relief as a matter of course, if they have more than three children; in some parishes, if they have more than two. In most parishes, they are expected to maintain three; and it is quite a matter of course, that if a man has three children he takes relief, whether he be able to support them or not, for there is no longer any shame in being upon the poor-rates.

Mr. Curteis thinks that the labourers would be disposed to emigrate. The parishes frequently encourage them by an advance in money to the amount of 30*l.* and 40*l.*, to get rid of families, but many have returned, perhaps one-fourth, and the parishes are now unwilling to contribute. He thinks that the parishes would be willing to mortgage their poor-rates, on repayment of the whole, or part of the sum advanced for such labourers as were disposed to emigrate; but it would

Page 115. be salutary to pass an act, depriving the labourer of support from the parish in case of return. He does not think that any great number of Irish labourers come into Sussex; during the harvest, a great concourse come from all quarters, but he considers them necessary; at the same time they no doubt lower the price of labour. Upon the subject of emigration, the clerk of the petty sessions writes—"Emigrants occasionally

return, but not in great numbers; much the greater part remain abroad; and it would relieve our country if emigration could be encouraged, because it is generally the worst of people that wish to go; I mean the idle, and those who are unwilling or unable to work." Page 116.

Mr. Selmes, a farmer in East Sussex, who rents land beyond 3000*l.* per annum, conceives the subject of emigration to be deserving of the most serious attention of government; for unless the parishes are relieved of the surplus labourers, the consequences in a short time must be dreadful. Another correspondent of Mr. Curteis says, our cottages are increasing in number immensely, and as soon as a family is sent abroad, the cottage is immediately felled. It would be a good thing to pull the cottages down, but in Sussex they are extremely valuable, and are worth from 150*l.* to 200*l.*

Those who emigrate prefer the United States, from Page 117. ignorance, or because the voyage is shorter; but were they aware of any advantage afforded in going to Canada, they would prefer that colony: many would prefer going to New Holland or Australia; and Mr. Curteis knows that a great number of farmers having some capital have gone out there, and have done well.

He thinks workhouses should be put down, as they are receptacles for the maintenance and propagation of Page 117. bastards. He considers the practice of paying to farmers the rent of cottages out of the poor-rates a great abuse, and thinks it desirable to tax the landlords for cottages. To prove the rapid increase of population, Mr. Curteis delivers several tables or returns, from which he says it will appear that there are more than four births to one burial.

Sir John Sebright. Page 124. Sir JOHN SEBRIGHT, M.P., is entirely unacquainted with Ireland, and what he has to state to the committee is merely matter of opinion, as relating, not to England in general, but to the effect that emigration might have upon one particular parish. Had he the entire control of selecting such families as he pleased, provided they would go, and the power of preventing their places from being filled by new comers, he would pay liberally for their emigration—15*l.* a head, or even more. He would select persons having large families, and those bad characters.

The advantage received from Irish labourers in harvest Sir John states to be very great, nor is he aware of any inconvenience that results from them. Their conduct is exemplary, and even meritorious, and he says that they do not interfere with resident labourers, as they come only during harvest and hay time. He thinks the rate of wages too low, and that the poor-rates are in part applied to the payment of labour.

Mr. Gabbett. Page 125. WILLIAM GABBETT, Esq., resides five miles from Limerick, and is well acquainted with the county; great distress prevails among its population, from the very high price of all sorts of agricultural produce. There is no kind of manufacture, and the people are paupers from the want of employment. There is a redundancy of population with respect to the demand for labourers, and every person who can amass a very few pounds is emigrating from that part of the county. There is a very great disposition to emigrate, and he is sorry to say the best description of mechanics go. They are often people of some little property, and sell all they have to bear their passage out. Many leave their families behind them, who are a great load upon

the bounty of the public, as there are no poor-laws. The landlords have not hitherto contributed anything towards facilitating emigration, but they feel that they would be benefited by a reduction of the people on their estates, and witness is so convinced of this that he never re-lets any of the farms that fall in, but retains them in his own hands; and there is a general disposition among the landlords to prevent sub-letting, which throws a distressed population upon the country without any resource whatever. This Mr. Gabbett thinks the cause of all the outrages which have happened in Ireland. Page 126.

The mischief of sub-letting in Ireland is such, that when a person marries his daughter, or his son, he gives a portion of his farm to each, which tends to increase the population. He knows it to be carried so far, that the produce of the farm is barely sufficient to support the population, without leaving anything to the landlord. He does not conceive it possible, that the landed property of Ireland could afford a taxation for the support of the poor; and if imposed, it would tend to increase the redundant population.

In some instances, the proprietors might contribute something towards relieving their estates by emigration from redundant population; but he thinks it would be hard to place residents, in this respect, upon a par with the absentee proprietor: the former having done everything to check this redundancy, and the latter nothing. He is perfectly convinced, that it would be the interest of absentees to contribute to the reduction of the excessive population; and he thinks it would be politic for the Irish gentleman to advance money, or submit to a tax, for removing the redundant population, and that

it might be made a charge upon the property. Mr. Gabbett is of opinion, that such tax could be justly and beneficially applied to the encouragement of emigration. He is persuaded, that a great many people would voluntarily offer themselves to go to the colonies,

Page 127. provided it was not thought transportation, far beyond what the government would undertake to send; and so great is the want of employment in Ireland, that it

Page 129. would be the duty of the landlords to contribute very handsomely to get rid of their redundant population, even so far as advancing 20*l.* for the removal of a family of four persons, though it would be better to make it an annual charge: the high rents are not in general laid upon the poor by the gentry of the country, but by the middlemen and farmers who rent land; and such persons, he thinks, would be unwilling to contribute so largely; but he talks of the landed gentlemen contributing, who would consider the encouragement of emigration a very great benefit, and they would use means to prevent a recurrence of redundant population upon their respective estates. This, the middlemen and principal farmers would also do to a certain extent, as they have suffered as much from the overgrown population as the landed proprietors.

The difficulty, at present, for a landlord, whose
Page 130. leases are out, is to get possession: if he gives notice to his tenants to quit, he is sure to have some outrage committed on his property; if he re-lets it to others, the same mischief occurs; and, in the county of Limerick, it would be a matter of extreme danger to turn the persons out of possession of their farms whose terms may have expired. This controls the landlord in the management of his land, and affects his interest;

for the people keep a sort of forcible possession, and the proprietor receives no rent frequently for long periods.

Mr. Gabbett states, that, from the part of the country where he resides, there has been a considerable emigration to different parts of America, particularly to Canada, at their own expense; but with no other effect than the loss of the best mechanics and labourers, none of whom have ever returned. *He has often inquired concerning them of their friends, and they are highly pleased with their condition, which has induced the emigration of many more; and the letters from emigrants generally encourage their friends to follow them.* Page 130.

Mr. Gabbett states, that there is the greatest possible danger for any tenant to take possession of land from which others have been dispossessed—his life would be immediately sacrificed; for combinations have existed among the population of the country, to co-operate in vindictive measures against any tenants taking possession of lands from which the former tenants have been turned out, so long as he remembers. If the land is to be taxed, Mr. Gabbett thinks the landlords would sooner contribute to keep the poor in the country by an expenditure upon the land itself, than for emigration. They might be employed in reclaiming bogs and mountains, and in laying out extensive lines of road, and various other ways; and he himself would sooner contribute to this, than to emigration; for the reclaiming of these lands would feed the population. He does not think that the land in Ireland would bear a tax sufficient to afford occupation to the population unemployed; but he is satisfied that, with the poor man's labour, 6*l.* a year would be found sufficient to support

a family of four, valuing his labour at 5*l.* or 11*l.* in all, not including clothes, which they derive from a pig which they generally keep. Mr. Gabbett does not know which to prefer,—paying 16*l.* a year to support four people, or to pay the sum of 20*l.* to remove them to a state of comparative comfort and independence, and get rid of them for ever; but he thinks that only one-third of the population is employed. Mr. Gabbett concludes by stating, that the objection which he feels to emigration is, that the efficient labourer will be taken away, and he will leave his family, for he cannot take all his children with him, in the greatest possible distress; but if the whole family can be transported, it would be a wise measure: and in that case, he thinks that emigration might be a better mode than that which he proposed.

Mr.
Hodges.
Page 133.
27 April,
1826.

THOMAS LAW HODGES, Esq., resides at Hemsted, in the county of Kent. In the district in which he lives, called the Weald of Kent, there is a redundancy of labouring population. The poor-rates are, from that reason, enormously high; and the only remedy is by promoting emigration, the tide of which, in Kent, is setting towards New York. The parishes assist, and in a recent emigration, only a week since, it has been at the rate of 13*l.* 10*s.* per head for grown-up persons, including all costs and charges; that is, for passage 7*l.*, for provisions 3*l.* 10*s.*, and two sovereigns to be in each person's pocket on landing: of the remaining sum, 4*s.* 6*d.* is paid at landing in New York, and a few shillings for expenses from Kent to London. Women pay the same passage as men; children under twelve years of age, half, or 3*l.* 10*s.*

Page 134. The expense of a pauper, with his wife, during the

whole year, would be 20*l*.; and, therefore, the parishes would be disposed to avail themselves of any facilities in sending these paupers to any of the British colonies. The people are extremely desirous of being sent. *Mr. Hodges saw a letter from an emigrant, thanking the parish for what they had done for him, and hoping that some day he would be able to make a return; but if the prospect of removal to Canada does not hold out advantages equal or superior to the United States, they would not go.* He was informed that the most favourable account of their welfare came from emigrants sent out by a neighbouring parish; and almost all the labourers of that parish are constantly pressing the overseers to send them out.

These people have settled in the country around New York, and particularly Albany. They are immediately taken into farmers' service, who come down and hire them immediately, giving them ten dollars per month, and as much meat as they can eat. But he thinks that they would prefer Canada, were they to receive land and some corresponding assistance. He thinks that parishes would be disposed to charge the poor-rates with an annuity, to repay both principal and interest; but it must be spread over a convenient space of time; for if emigration is to benefit the parishes, it must be on a very large scale; for they are so oppressed with the crowded population in a large district of the county of Kent, that they are fully aware of the evils of their situation, which must rapidly increase unless relieved. Two or three years ago, fifty-two men, women, and children, emigrated from the parish of Smarden to New York, twenty-seven at the expense of the parish, and twenty-five at their own charge. The reports from them are the most favourable, so much so that almost all the labourers of the parish are

Page 134.

Page 135.

desirous of going to America. The method adopted by the parish for providing the means of sending out those twenty-seven emigrants, was by borrowing a sum of money from an individual residing in the parish, and repaying it out of the rates by instalments of 50% every half year, until the whole was paid off. But immediately on these families quitting their cottages, other families took possession of them, and the parish paid the rents; so that it has experienced no relief from this

Page 136. emigration. The cottages were entirely filled up by parishioners; for if the excess of the population were to be drawn off to-morrow, and twenty, thirty, or forty houses to become vacant, as many corresponding pairs of young people, many of them under age, would be asked in church directly. And this arises from the poor having a reliance upon the rates for assistance; so that they are become regardless of the consequences of marriage, and have lost those feelings of independence which their

Page 136. fathers had. Mr. Hodges is quite satisfied that the erection of cottages has been a most serious evil throughout that county; and is, from conviction, concurring with other cottage proprietors in pulling down from twenty-six to thirty cottages, as soon as their present occupants are gone, if they emigrate, as it is probable they will; for, if the buildings are left standing, young people of seventeen and eighteen years of age, and even still younger, would marry immediately, and thus the evil would continue. The increase of the number of

Page 137. cottages may be attributed to the long war, which occasioned many Government works all over the country: the demand for labour was very great; people married without fear of the consequences; they thought their children would have full employment. Volunteering from the militia made vacancies, which were soon filled up; and there was an unusual demand for labour.

The cultivation of hops had something to do with it. It is a woody district, and has been a favourite country for labourers to go into. In a population of sixteen parishes, consisting of 21,719 persons, 8,263 are paupers; and, in addition to that number, 682, for whom no employment whatever can be found in any part of the year; thus nearly a moiety of the whole population is dependent on the rates. Those that are able to work have been frequently sent to other parts of the country to procure labour, but have not been able to succeed. One very striking fact is, that they are almost constantly, in their applications for work, underbid by the Irish labour. Mr. Hodges is of opinion that if Page 133. the inducements suggested were held out to these paupers, any number might be induced to go, so as to relieve the parishes to the extent required.

In these sixteen parishes, the county rates, including the church-rate and highway-rate, were, for 1820, 1821, and 1823, 39,664*l.*, which he mentions to show the very Page 139. great distress of the country, and necessity of relief from the crowded population with which they are oppressed. Since 1822 there has been no improvement. This description does not apply to the whole of Kent, but to a very large proportion of it; and Mr. Hodges knows a corresponding district in Sussex. He does not think that there would be any objection on the part of the paupers, to pay back any money advanced for their emigration, provided they had confidence that they would do well. In which case they would prefer going Page 140. to Canada to New York; and the removal of these poor labourers would have the effect of increasing the rate of wages, and rendering comfortable those who remain. But to render emigration effectual it would be necessary to prevent the building of cottages.



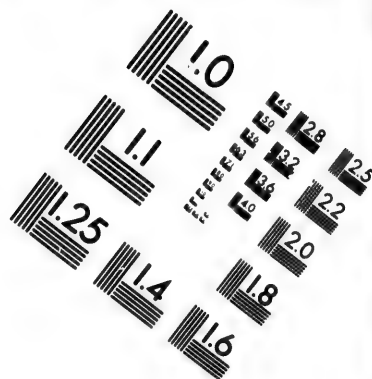
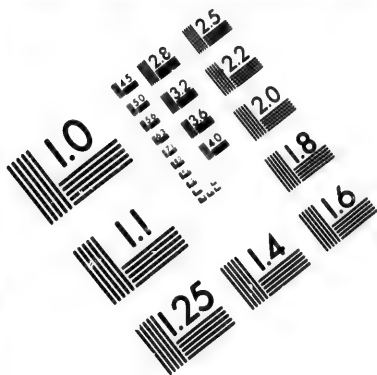
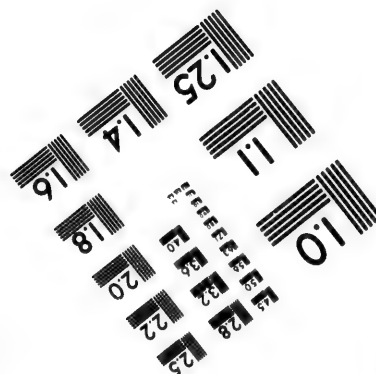
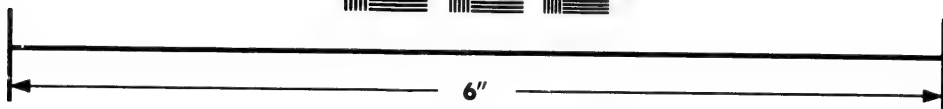
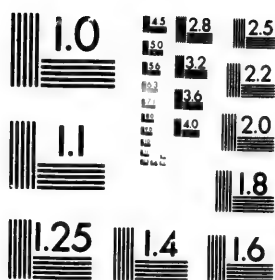


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- Page 141. Of those who have emigrated to the United States, many, Mr. Hodges says, have become land-owners, and purchased their lands at two dollars an acre. One of his own tenants went out, and has purchased 200 acres of land in the state of Ohio, and is doing very well. He has written home, and many of his own neighbours are going.

The Right Rev. Lord Bishop of Limerick. The Right Rev. the LORD BISHOP OF LIMERICK, in considering the comparative advantages of removing the redundant population by means of emigration, or employing it at home by the application of capital, apprehends, from past experience, that at home much money might be expended with little benefit. The evil to be met is a redundant population, an evil which is now in the process of curing itself in the most painful way, by the ejection, destitution, and starvation of these poor people, whom his Lordship denominates surreptitious tenantry. The evil is pressing and immediate. Any system of home relief must be gradual in its operation; but emigration brings instantaneous relief; it is what bleeding would be to an apoplectic patient. The sufferers are at once taken away from a country where they are a nuisance, and are passed to a country where they will be a benefit and a blessing. Meantime the landlords, aided by existing laws, will have it in their power to check the growth of population. *In regard to the emigration of 1823, his Lordship's impression is very favourable: the emigrants are extremely well satisfied. They have written to their friends, desiring them to follow.* The desire of the lower classes in Ireland for emigration is very considerable; there is a great anxiety for it.

The Bishop hopes, that the landlords in the south of

Ireland, whose properties would be benefited, would ultimately contribute towards the expense of emigration. There might be difficulties in the first instance from the want of means, or a right apprehension of the scheme; but as information grows, it will be seen that a small annual payment, instead of involving a pecuniary loss, will, from the consequent improved state of things at home, be a source of profit. In fact, the evil felt in the outrages perpetrated and likely to be perpetrated by dispossessed tenants, would soon create a disposition to pay a small yearly stipend towards their emigration and settlement abroad. Thus it would be with the gentry. The farmers would be still more desirous, because the mischief comes home to them; their houses are liable to attack, their cattle are destroyed, their lives become frequently sacrifices. The Bishop thinks, therefore, that there might be good hope of parochial assessment to the amount of sixpence per acre, supposing the law to authorise it, for a parochial assessment in addition to voluntary contributions of landlords is desirable. There is a distinct reason for each. The landholder should pay for protection, the land-owner for the improvement of his property. His Lordship doubts the propriety of making the tax at first compulsory: in the first instance, let it be a power to parishes to tax themselves, entirely limited to the purposes of emigration, but let the exertion of the power be optional. The Irish landlords would prefer a small sum annually for a time, rather than give a larger sum once for all. If the money advanced on emigration was to be repaid by an annuity, spread over a surface of years, the landlord would be willing to undertake the earlier years of that payment, leaving to the emigrant to continue the payment, when he shall have the means of so

doing, from the profits of the land he has to cultivate. His Lordship has no manner of doubt but that a great proportion of the general mass of offences in Ireland is derived from the system of Irish tenantry, and the excessive population that has been the result. He wishes for such a legislative measure, rendering it possible that, in the event of emigration, there should be an annual contribution from the landlord, or an assessment on the parish, or both; and his Lordship thinks it desirable that commissioners for the carrying emigration into effect in an extended way should look for aid from the gentry and from the landed proprietors; that every facility should be given to emigration, while at the same time districts and parishes should be left to their own option to avail themselves of such facilities.

Lt.-Col.
Cockburn.
Page 147.
28 April.

Lieut.-Col. COCKBURN was Superintendant of the Military Settlements in Upper Canada, which commenced in 1816, or 1817. They are situated between the river St. Lawrence and the Ottawa River. The soil is good, and they were established for the object of placing discharged soldiers on the lands. The quantity allotted to each individual depended on his rank. The largest grant made to Field-Officers was 1200 acres; it then went down according to the different ranks, and a private soldier received 100 acres. They had transport found for themselves and families to the settlement. After being placed on their lands, they were allowed one year's provision, and implements of husbandry, and articles to assist them in building their houses. By reference to documents, Col. Cockburn says that the expense of locating each private soldier was about 20*l.*:—this sum applies to an individual settler only. There were settlement-regulations, referring

to due exertion in clearing and improving their lots, general propriety of conduct, and not quitting the settlement without permission. The settlers were English, Irish, Scotch, and Germans; and this principle of location continued six or seven years: of late, soldiers have been enlisted for limited periods of service, and it has been the custom in the Canadas, &c., when those periods of service expired, instead of affording a passage home, to give them lands with the advantages stated: the numbers each year depended, therefore, upon the soldiers that each corps in the country had to discharge. The earliest settlers may, on an average, have from fifteen to twenty acres cleared, and in some instances more; but that will have depended very much upon the means which they had, over and above their manual exertions, of bringing the land into cultivation. These military settlers had no means but what was afforded by government; but in many cases, at the end of the year, they were in such a state as to require further assistance, without which they would have inevitably perished from want. This arose, perhaps, from the want of exertion, a bad season, or sickness, wounds, or fire; and, speaking from experience, the Colonel says, that one year's provision cannot, in all cases, be reckoned upon as sufficient to enable a man to become established on his land; in some cases he should have rations for six months longer. An acre of land, when first cleared, may be expected to produce twenty bushels of wheat, each bushel giving fifty pounds of flour. A settler may, by due exertion, clear three acres the first year, and if he meet with no untoward circumstance, he is exempt from the fear of starvation; but he has his house to build, a severe winter to contend with, clothing to provide for himself and family. Generally speaking, Colonel Cockburn

rather inclines to the opinion, that at the expiration of seven years an emigrant would not have surplus produce worth 5*l.* sterling. A settler, after seven years, ought to be in possession of property fully to the amount of 5*l.* of annual surplus, but it is doubtful whether he can find a market with that sort of certainty, so as to pay that sum as a *money rent*. The only lands allotted for settlers are in distant parts of the country, where there are not any markets. They stated to the Colonel, when last in Canada, " You left us without food, and now you find us with more food than we know what to do with." If, indeed, roads were constructed, and facilities of communication afforded, a market might be found for the surplus produce of the settlement, but still there would be a great difficulty in collecting *rents*, to the payment of which there is a great repugnance; and as to receiving the value in kind, that would depend very much upon the means which you take to enforce the collection of it. Col. Cockburn is of opinion, that, at the expiration of seven years, the repayment *in money* of the expense of establishing the settlers cannot be reckoned upon; in more than one-half the instances, you would not succeed at all; in many others, you would not succeed without having recourse to legal process. The only thing would be withholding the deed; but if that were done, the consequence would be, that the settler would consider it such a grievance, that he would cease to take any interest in his location, and would leave it. Generally speaking, a settler would not fulfil any engagement he might enter into for the repayment, at the end of seven years, of the money received. There was an engagement entered into with the military settlers on this subject: in a year of difficulty, when the crops had failed,

it was deemed necessary to supply them with seed-wheat, which they promised to repay at a certain period ; the accounts for this expenditure were kept open a considerable time, and we were at last obliged to get an order to cancel the debts altogether, from the impossibility of collecting them. The non-payment by the emigrants arises very much from the difficulty of finding markets, and the great scarcity of money in these settlements.

A great many of the military settlers have gone over Page 150. to the United States, both single and married men, and have remained there. If they went away before receiving their deeds, their lands were re-located ; but where any improvements had been made, Col. Cockburn established a rule—that, previous to granting the lot to any body else, the improvements should be valued, so that, in the event of the settler returning, he might receive the amount of that labour which he had actually laid out in effecting the improvements. The motive which induces settlers to emigrate to the United States is generally a deception. The people of that country are fond of enticing emigrants, hold out inducements, and, availing themselves of their labour for a certain time, then turn them adrift. Col. Cockburn has known a great number of people who, on their way to Upper Canada, have been induced to go over to the United States, and who have eventually perished there for want.

There is hardly such a thing as a ready money sale Page 151. of land in Upper Canada ; it is generally paid for by instalments, so much the first year, so much the second, and so much in the third, and so on—the whole of the money bearing interest ; but it has happened, in many cases, that neither the one nor the other is realized.

Page 152. Col. Cockburn is only partially acquainted with the line of country from Niagara to Port Talbot, as he has generally gone by water ; but the road through this country was made under the establishment of the legislature by statute labour, and the labour which the settlers are bound to perform in the front of their own lots.

Colonel Cockburn is of opinion, that the clergy reserves tend to prevent the making of good roads in Upper Canada, for unless a crown or clergy reserve be under lease, there is no provision for making any
Page 152. road through it all, so that it becomes a stop. With regard to the possibility of collecting rents, Colonel Cockburn refers the Committee to the difficulty which the clergy have in collecting the rents of their re-
Page 153. serves. They have many under lease, and he alludes to what they actually receive, not to what is due.

Some of the mechanics, after being established, avail themselves of their particular line of business ; and for this reason it was thought advisable to establish a certain number of villages in the military settlement ; and Colonel Cockburn submits to the Committee the utility of doing so in all new settlements, as a means of bringing artisans together, of encouraging tradesmen to bring goods to the settlement, and of affording to their farmers the means of disposing of their produce. The present mode of locating lands in squares, rather than concentric lots, is to be preferred, as it facilitates the great object of establishing general communications through the country ; and he is quite satisfied, that villages are of great advantage : in some places a village was laid out in acre lots, and at some distance park lots of ten acres, which brought more inhabitants
Page 154. together, such as blacksmiths, tailors, shoemakers,

and traders of various descriptions, who lived by their different crafts. The military settlers were not of a superior class; on the contrary, as soldiers they had imbibed habits of idleness. Of the settlers, Colonel Cockburn rather prefers the English and Scotch, but the Irish agree very well; they have, indeed, very little time to quarrel, and are, in general, at such a distance, that it must be a sort of pitched quarrel if they quarrel at all.

Colonel Cockburn's impression respecting Mr. Robinson's settlers of 1823, was, that they were not doing well; and that the settlers in the neighbourhood were so much annoyed with their conduct, that it was wished no more should be sent out under similar circumstances. This impression was made from the confidence he had in those individuals who spoke to him upon the subject, and who, in his opinion, had ample means of knowing. Colonel Cockburn thinks, that in any system of emigration, boards would do mischief, but agents are indispensable; and he is quite satisfied, that, to succeed, all the orders and directions must emanate from this country, and the agents employed should be under the controul of the persons who conduct the emigration. Page 154.

The Reverend Doctor STRACHAN has just returned from Canada; he hopes that, after seven years, the settlers would have the disposition, as they certainly would have the ability to repay any advance made on account of their emigration; if they did not, the improvement of the farms would be a sufficient security that the parties would not leave them, but rather pay the debt. Europeans in Canada have feelings quite different from those from the United States. Dr. Strachan. Page 159.

The Europeans live hardly, are afraid of getting into debt, and are provisioned chiefly on milk, vegetables, and bread ; when they have a pig they fatten and sell it, and get attached to the place in which they are living. Persons from the United States, on the contrary, live extravagantly compared to Europeans, form no particular attachment, get into debt if they can, and after five or six years, think nothing of selling their lots, and if they have a small balance, of taking a new farm to improve, in the back settlements, either in Canada or the United States ; nor will they think any thing of going four hundred miles in pursuit of a location. They sometimes find difficulty in disposing of their farms under such circumstances, and sometimes not : if an emigrant has money he prefers purchasing a cultivated farm ; it takes away from him the dismal apprehension of going into the woods. There is, therefore, an occasional market of this sort for farms in Upper Canada. In other respects, the market takes its hue from the prices in this country. In six weeks the merchants know the value of colonial produce in London, and regulate their dealings accord-

Page 159. ingly. The industry of settlers is progressive : a European will, after six months, if he wish to succeed, and continues industrious, do more work in the course of a week or fortnight than a native American, because he perseveres longer. He will not fell as much timber in one day or two days, but in six days he will fell more, and he has also a greater disposition to save than the American. He has known, in his experience, persons accumulate in eighteen, or twenty years, a property of two [or three thousand pounds, from the actual improvement of their farms and lands ; then purchasing other farms for establishing their children,

or letting them out in shares. He is by no means of opinion that an emigrant, at the end of one year, is unable to provide for his subsistence without assistance; for many persons have, to his knowledge, gone on farms, and subsisted themselves the same year. He, therefore, thinks one year's provision is quite sufficient; and he is confident that the advantages which have been given to the emigrants of 1823, with the vast benefit they possess of a proper superintendant, quite enough for any industrious man to get on perfectly well.

In regard to the children of settlers, the practice in Upper Canada, and in the United States, is this:—if a man has a family of sons, he provides a farm for the eldest, and gives what aid he can to establish him. To the second, when of age, he does the same, and so on. The younger generally takes care of the homestead, and provides for the parents. The farms found for the children branched off are not always in the neighbourhood, for distance is not considered in America as in England, and he must be a very indifferent settler who is not able to branch off his children in this manner. Enactments concerning roads and internal communications are better understood in the colony than in this country. Accordingly road-laws exist, which are considered to insure, in a reasonable time, a tolerable road; and in winter there are good roads everywhere. In as far as the crown and clergy reserves are thought interruptions, they become, on being leased, subject to all the laws for the regulating and making of roads as other lands are. It must be admitted, that there are many reserves not leased, which present an impediment; but the inhabitants of the Canadas pay no quit-rent as in other colonies:

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Page 160.

when, therefore, the inhabitants complain of the small impediment thrown in the way by these reserves, it appears unreasonable, more especially as they are leasing very fast in the more populous parts of the country. Landholders lease them for their children, that they may be near them ; consequently the impediment, small as it is, can only be temporary. As to the difficulty experienced by the clergy in collecting their rents, it must be observed, that the clergy corporation has been but a few years established ; that since the Canada Company has been in agitation, it has ceased to do any thing, till that affair has come to a conclusion ; but the difficulty experienced in collecting the rents has arisen chiefly from a reluctance on the part of the clergy to proceed to extremities. As to the disposition of the colony to acquiesce in this way of providing for the church it is difficult to say. They would much rather prefer this way to that of being obliged to pay for the clergy themselves, and those who wish for an establishment do not consider the reserves disadvantageous ; but the church establishment has been hitherto so inadequate to the wants of the people, that it has not produced that religious character which it would have done had it been better supported ; for, wherever a clergyman is established in a populous district, he collects round him all the principal people, and forms a respectable congregation. If, therefore, the church of England has made very little progress, it is entirely from the want of means ; for eighty or one hundred clergymen could be placed to great advantage in the colony, if they could be decently supported.

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The actual number of established clergymen were in 1824 about twenty-two, they are now twenty-six ; of other denominations there are very few, except the

Methodists, who may have twenty-five travelling preachers, chiefly from the United States.

Education is flourishing in the colony; there are eleven grammar-schools, one for each district, the master of which receives a salary of 90*l.* per annum from the province, besides fees from his scholars. At these schools upwards of 300 young men, the children of the principal inhabitants, are instructed. There are also common or parochial schools in every township or parish, and from these ten of the most promising young men are selected, and sent to the grammar-school, to be taught gratis. The masters of the grammar-schools, two excepted, are of the Established Church, but there is no religious education enforced on those who differ. Prayers are enjoined evening and morning, but the Roman Catholic children who attend the schools are exempted from all religious instruction. In Upper Canada, there are few Roman Catholics. When Dr. Strachan came to the province there was only one priest, and he is now bishop. Since that period, several others have come into the province. The Roman Catholic clergy are supported by their people but poorly. They claim the tithe, as in Lower Canada, because the 14th of George III. applied to the province of Quebec before its division, and the 31st of King George III. establishes the right of the Catholic clergy to their rights and dues, and the Catholic clergy of Upper Canada consider their rights indisputable. The clergy of the Church of England have been hitherto supported by the Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts. As to the clergy of the United States, they are not respectably supported. The people hire them for stated periods, perhaps six

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months, and when they preach a sermon that the congregation dislikes, they are turned off.

Dr. Strachan is of opinion that should any settler fail in paying the expense of his location, the improvement made on his farm would be a sufficient security.

Page 163. There is no difficulty in the government recovering the sums that are advanced, as the improved farm is worth more than the debt.

As to the demand for labour, it would, owing to the thinness of population, be very soon glutted in any particular district, and this forces the emigrants to go to the public works for more permanent employment. In the United States, the labour performed on the canal has been always paid in money. The commissioners of the Erie Canal have been very careful to see that the labourers received their money; and the managers of the Welland Canal follow their example.

A man of moderate industry may in seven years clear and improve twenty-four or thirty acres: many persons will have much more ready for crop. As to corn or pasture land, the success depends entirely upon the soil: the average produce of wheat in Upper Canada may be reckoned twenty-five bushels per acre, Page 164. and he has seen the twentieth crop on the same ground, but that is considered bad farming. The system of farming may certainly be improved, but it requires time, as many of the emigrants have not been bred to farming. The valued property assessed in the province of Upper Canada is about two and a half millions of acres, and about eleven hundred thousand in tillage.

Page 164. The emigration of 1823 has undoubtedly succeeded. In respect to the military settlement, it must be observed, that soldiers broken up from their regiments

are not the best settlers, nor were the arrangements made by the military so good as those under Mr. Robinson, who knows the country. Mechanics and others, if once upon their land, would remain ; but so many things are told them about going into the woods, that they are frequently tempted to go to the United States ; but if they can be only placed upon their lands they are sure to remain. There is no drain from Canada to the United States, but the contrary. Emigrants cast upon the shore of Canada, and not sent there under the protection of government, might be induced to leave the province, but not those who had been placed upon their farms.

The flour from Gennesee or any neighbouring part of the United States is not better than that of Upper Canada, for there are several mills in that province, the bread of which is preferred at Quebec to that of any other which comes into the market. There would be no difficulty in admitting American flour into Upper or Lower Canada, for exportation, for it would improve both the import and export trade. Canada exported from 70 to 80,000 barrels of American flour previous to a dollar per barrel duty being laid on it. The principal part was sent to the West Indies in vessels of suitable size. As the merchants had the staple article of flour, it enabled them to make up assorted cargoes ; and by this means they disposed of beef, pork, butter, lard, live-stock, potatoes, and lumber, which was greatly advantageous to the country, but being deprived of flour, they cannot make up their cargoes, and are therefore obliged to abandon the trade. The direct advantages that Canada derived from allowing the importation of flour free, are—

1. The freight from Upper Canada.
2. The cartage, portorage, storage, cooperage, &c.
3. The merchants' commission.

Export—the freight—the supply of the ships with provisions—the men with clothing, and the building of the ships. Canada labours under the great disadvantage of having the river frozen nearly half the year; and this prevents the merchants from being able to compete on equal terms with those of the United States. This evil might, in a great degree, be remedied, by cutting the Canal across the Isthmus of Missiquash, to connect the Bay of Fundy with the Gulf of St. Lawrence: if this were done the Canadians would make St. John's a depôt for their produce; by this means they could supply the markets in the West Indies with good flour cheaper than the Americans, which they have not been

Page 165. able hitherto to do, and likewise with beef, butter, &c. In this way the inhabitants of St. John, New Brunswick, would become deeply interested in the West India trade; and instead of having their returns made directly to Canada, they would have their returns from the St. John's.

The exports from Upper Canada will not naturally pass through the Erie Canal, in preference to the St. Lawrence, because it takes about eight days to proceed from Buffaloe to New York, or twice as long as to go to Montreal; and this delay, in addition to the duties, must be a great burthen: nor can the duties be entirely

Page 166. done away, on account of the repairs annually required; and if allowed to go free of all toll, the produce would cost more to New York than Montreal. The trade, subsisting at present between Quebec and Halifax, is not very great, but the projected canal from the St. Lawrence to the Bay of Fundy, would make a

communication safe at all times with St. John ; and, by cutting a small internal canal, with Halifax also. As respects morasses, they come under the provisions of the Provincial legislature, which provides for such cases. These enactments diminish the difficulty according to the means of the population. That the settlements of Upper and Lower Canada would afford, by their increase, a very considerable demand for West India and British manufactures, is quite evident. A single good road, made through a township, raises the value of the land 200%. per cent.

The fisheries on the coast offer, also, a great market for the Canadians ; and as fishermen are employed, craftsmen would find occupation ; so that emigration would of itself increase.

Dr. Strachan sees no objection to allowing, in districts where there is a large majority of Catholics, a reserve of land for the Catholic priest, without interfering with the reserve already made for the Established Church. As to the Methodists, or any other denomination, it does not appear wise.

The Catholics are a sort of national church. The church of Scotland might be added as deserving assistance, but such assistance should be confined to the established Roman Catholic and Presbyterian churches. Page 167. A great portion of the inhabitants resort to dissenting places of worship, from the great deficiency in the supply of regular Clergymen.

There is no disposition in Canada to emigrate to the United States ; for if the settlers or emigrants were assisted, as they have lately been, all would remain.

The population is, in general, very much attached to the government of Great Britain. The settlers have no taxes or assessments to pay, compared to those paid

by the inhabitants of the United States. The feeling of the Canadas is at present exceedingly in favour of a continuance of the connexion with the mother-country, provided their interests are properly protected. The exports last year, 1825, were valued at upwards of 1,000,000*l.*;—the seamen employed, nine or ten thousand;—the vessels eight hundred and eighty-three; the tonnage 227,707; and sixty-one new vessels were built in Lower Canada.

The boats that ply on the Erie canal are from twenty to thirty tons burthen, and the number was so great, as to produce 500,000 dollars gross revenue; nor will the annual repair be very great.

There came by the way of New York a great number of Irishmen, in 1817 and 1818, recommended by the British consul; they were settled in Cavan, and are all doing well, and have a great deal of surplus produce. They appeared to have no money among them when they arrived, but after looking around them, they found employment and gained wages. These were chiefly Protestants. There is a large settlement, west of York, as prosperous and satisfied as those in the township of Cavan: many of them went and laboured on the Erie canal, and but for that they would have been much longer in getting forward. There are not, indeed, the same facilities now, in getting labour, as formerly; because the Erie canal is finished, and the Welland canal cannot absorb all the labourers. The Ohio canal is rather too distant, but still many go and labour upon it.

Mr. Buchanan.

ALEXANDER CARLISLE BUCHANAN, Esq., knows very little about the emigration of 1823, but a good deal about free emigration;—has visited both Upper

and Lower Canada, but his property is in the latter. Emigrants landing in Canada, frequently go into the States and return again. Many who settle in the back parts of New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio, find Quebec the cheapest and easiest route, from the great water conveyance on the St. Lawrence and the lakes. The majority, however, of those who land at Quebec, settle in Canada. Emigrants can lay by half their wages in the United States, and the same in Canada. He has known poor wretches arrive at Quebec, who would be scarcely hired in Ireland, realize, in one summer, from Page 169. fifty to eighty dollars; for they get eight or ten dollars per month, and many half a dollar a day, and food. Mr. Buchanan's brother, the consul at New York, sent to Canada a great number of settlers from Ireland, who are doing well. For the last ten years, the arrival at Quebec has been from ten to twelve thousand annually, and about the same number arrive in the United States. Before passing the late act, allowing emigration to the Page 170. United States on similar footing as to Canada, not so many went to the States, from the high rate of passage; but as ships going there can now take as many as to our colonies, a preference is generally given to the United States, except by those who have friends in the Canadas before them; but there are not so many going to the States as there were. The majority of these emigrants are Protestants and Dissenters; some of them with large families, and carrying with them from 50*l.* to 100*l.*, and are in general doing well.

Mr. Buchanan has been in the habit of taking out Page 172. passengers; but the Act for their regulation is not 3d May. acceptable to the habits and customs of the people of Ireland, as it provides provisions, which they know not

how to use, and which they do not like; at the same time it very much increases the expense, and is not so favourable to their health as the food they are accustomed to, which consists of oatmeal, potatoes, butter, eggs, molasses, and a little bacon, the whole not costing more than 2*l*. to support them during their passage.

Mr. Felton.
Page 176.

WILLIAM BOWMAN FELTON, Esq., again called in, states, that the French law, in Lower Canada, is confined to the adjustment of civil disputes. In all criminal matters the law of England is introduced. This prevalence of the French law is a disadvantage most severely felt by all English settlers, and great numbers of respectable persons are, from this circumstance, prevented from settling in Lower Canada. Mr. Felton does not believe that the French population is particularly attached to the present French law; nor that they prefer holding property by the French rather than the English tenure; but they dislike going into the townships, on account of the reserves for the crown and clergy interfering with their mode of settlement, and because the clergy reserves promise a provision for a rival church, and they have no provision for their own clergy. In the Seigneuries of Lower Canada, the law provides for the clergy of the church of Rome by the appropriation of a tithe of one twenty-sixth of the grain raised; but in the part of the province granted since the conquest, in free and common soccage, there is no provision by law made for any established clergy specially designated, the reservation of the clergy lands being for the support of a Protestant church; so that the ministers of the church of Scotland are, equally with those of the church of Rome, unprovided for by law in

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those parts of the province. Emigrants of the established church of England, locating themselves in the townships, are provided with religious instruction by the beneficence of his Majesty's Government, or aid of an allowance from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. The number of clergymen so provided does not exceed twelve; and in regard to the proportion of inhabitants belonging to the established church, in as far as Mr. Felton's observation extends, wherever a minister of the established church is placed, all the Protestants in the neighbourhood frequent his church. And he thinks, that if emigration is carried on under the sanction of Government, it is the duty of Government to cause provision to be made for religious instruction commensurate to the growing numbers and wants of the emigrants.

In regard to schools, they are very generally established in the townships, and the masters are paid by the colony; but they are not grammar-schools, and are intended only for the poorer classes. The local legislature and authorities are not very forward in promoting education. There are no efficient schools for the instruction of the common people in the French settlements in Lower Canada. The Roman Catholic clergy may, indeed, be said to assist, because the three colleges or seminaries, at Montreal, Quebec, and Nicolet, are open to the admission of the laity, and the instructors are Catholic priests. Mr. Felton prefers emigrants from England to the American Backwoodsmen, because they have more steady habits, soon become as efficient, and the Irish for the fisheries. He thinks that as many of the emigrants as possible should be located upon the frontiers of the United States, particularly such as are most averse to the Americans, in religion

and prejudices, as the Irish, or preferably the Highland Catholic emigrants. Mr. Felton thinks it judicious to encourage a certain number of established churches in the Canadas, by an equal protection afforded to each ; to explain,—he would confine his protection to the church of England, the church of Scotland, and the church of Rome ; and that they should be supported

Page 132. by a tithe. He does not consider that the appropriation of land to the clergy of the church of England will yield the benefit anticipated. The amount of rent from the clergy reserves, in any given township of 60,000 acres, if all leased and collected, will, for twenty-one years, be only 154*l.* : now, what is true of a township is true of the whole province.

Mr. THOMAS LAW HODGES again called in—thinks that
Hodges. there is no remedy to resist the existing evil of a
4th May. redundant population equal to that of emigration, and
Page 182. the necessity of that species of relief is so pressing, that the parishes must and will relieve themselves, either by emigration to Canada or to the United States. The cost of a family, a man, and his wife, and two children, emigrating to the United States, is 37*l.* ; to send the same family to Upper Canada will cost 88*l.*, leaving a difference of 51*l.* more in sending them to Canada than the United States ; but if the parishes were only to pay the interest of this sum for seven years, when it would be assumed by the emigrant himself, at the same time that he was deprived of any future claim on the parish, much saving of expense and trouble would be made ;
Page 184. for if the expense of sending emigrants to Canada is made not to exceed that of sending them to the United States, there would be a disposition on the part of the parishes to send them to the former. After

attributing the increase of population, in a great degree, to improvident marriages, from a reliance on the poor-rates and the building of cottages, Mr. Hodges delivered a letter from a labouring man, who had emigrated from an adjacent parish, dated Upper Canada, 30th October, 1825, stating that it is a fine country for a man with a family, entering into various particulars; but all encouraging and in favour of emigration. He had gone first to the United States; but, convinced of the superior advantages of Upper Canada, he had removed into it, where, he says, "my children can get farms of their own, which they could not have done in the States." This man had nothing when he went away but his labour to depend upon. A thousand families could well be spared from the district of which Mr. Hodges speaks, and with great benefit to the labourers who remain; nor does he conceive it possible, without such extraordinary relief as emigration may afford, and, perhaps, emigration alone, that the people can be restored to that sound state, by which the poor laws may be placed on their original principles, and the moral and religious habits of the people be restored; for the lower population are led day by day more and more to throw themselves upon public or parochial relief.

ALEXANDER NIMMO, Esq., is well acquainted with the state of the poor in the South of Ireland, where the labouring population is redundant. He believes that the introduction of manufactures would very much ameliorate the condition of the poor; but how far emigration to a more favourable situation might be the better scheme, he is not competent to decide. He is of opinion, that the disturbed situation of Ireland

Mr.
Nimmo.
Page 187.

does not arise from thick population, but from portions of the country where it is thin; except in one case, he recollects no disturbance in the neighbourhood of Clonakilty, or in the extreme parts of the County of Clare. He thinks that the disturbances in Ireland may always be traced to the distressed condition of the people, and has been most violent in the agricultural districts.

The removal of the redundant population would increase the value of the land; but the disposition of the proprietors to contribute to their removal by emigration would depend upon the expense, though there are some cases where a proprietor would be willing to pay a considerable sum to remove from his estate, without trouble or inconvenience to himself, a part of the population.

WILLIAM WRIXON BECHER, Esq., M. P., knows it to be a fact, as Mr. Nimmo stated, that the more populous districts have been invariably quiet, and the less so have been disturbed. Believes that sub-letting exists in the south of Ireland to a pernicious degree, and that it deteriorates the value of property; and to this he attributes much of the misery of that part of the country. Mr. Becher doubts the existence of a disposition, to any extent, on the part of the landlords to concur in the expense necessary for removing a portion of the redundant population; but if the demand was not too great, he thinks it would be the landlord's interest to contribute; and if the aid were, Page 192. by way of annuity, charged upon the estate, it would be deemed more favourable, because spread over a number of years. There is such a general feeling prevailing among landlords against sub-letting, from ex-

perience of its evils, that, if ever relieved from such a state, they would endeavour to prevent its recurrence. At present it would be very dangerous and very cruel to remove persons at the termination of their leases, without being able to dispose of them subsequently. Nor does he conceive it possible, without emigration, to afford such relief by the removal of the superabundant population, as to enable landlords to let farms upon any sound principle.

Mr. Becher is of opinion, that the emigrants who Page 193. went to Canada consider their situation enviable, and that there is a disposition among the lower classes to follow them; and in his neighbourhood to escape the consequences of misconduct.

Mr. Nimmo thinks that a great unwillingness will Page 195. be found on the part of the Irish proprietors to being assessed in the nature of land-tax for any thing like parochial relief.

REDMOND O'DRISCOL, Esq., agrees with Mr. Nimmo, that no remedy can be applied so effectually and so satisfactorily for the removal of the redundant population, as emigration carried on upon an extensive scale, and upon a judicious system. There is no probability of such population being absorbed by manufacturers. He thinks that the interests of the proprietors ought to induce them to contribute largely towards emigration, as it increases the security and value of their property. The landholders would concur in the advantages of emigration, but he doubts whether they would concur as to any mode of taxation upon themselves to carry it on; yet, if they were Page 196. brought to see that it was their interest, they might contribute. The extent of voluntary emigration has,

last spring, been almost incredible; it has been produced by the invitations of friends who had preceded them, particularly those sent out in 1823, under Mr. Robinson. Mr. O'Driscoll has seen people by hundreds at the brokers' office at the Port of Cork, stating that their friends invite them over, and expressing great anxiety to go. Invitations also come from persons who have gone to the United States; but at present the emigration is chiefly to the North American colonies.

The emigrants going are chiefly agricultural, and possess some means.

Page 197. Lord Viscount ENNISMORE, M.P., thinks it would be very desirable to Irish landlords to meet a proportion of the expense of emigration; that they would consider 20% for the emigration of a family, consisting of four persons, not beyond the advantage to be reaped by their removal. A part of the population is at present employed in public works, which only afford a temporary relief. His Lordship believes that the want of employment was almost solely the cause of the disturbances; for a disturbance in the County of Cork was quieted almost immediately by the employment of the people, and no disturbance has taken place in that district since. His Lordship cannot state what sort of pecuniary sacrifice a landlord would make to be relieved from a redundant population on his property, but he himself would be very willing to pay for seven years 3*l.* 10*s.* for the emigration of a family of four persons; and he believes many persons would be very glad to do the same, but he does not mean to say that all would. His Lordship is fully aware of the evils of sub-letting, but covenants in leases against

it are found unavailing; not only does sub-letting produce extreme poverty and distress among the sub-tenants themselves, but defeats the rights of the landlord, and becomes the source of great outrage and disturbance.

Lord Ennismore does not see how an assessment on land in Ireland could be made justifiable to meet the expense of emigration; nor does he think that the system of poor-laws would be at all applicable to Ireland, but the contrary; and believes that its adoption would be attended with ruinous consequences. There is a general feeling and desire in the country to get rid of the redundant population, particularly since the commencement of the emigrations within the last three years, and the lower classes are perfectly willing and desirous of going. The accounts from Canada have been very encouraging, so much so, as to cause a general anxiety among the lower orders to migrate to Canada. His Lordship sent out, in the last emigration, several small tenants from some farms, which was a great relief to the farms, and the people themselves have been highly pleased with the circumstances in which they have been placed.

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ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL, Esq., M. P., believes that the influx of Irish population to Glasgow and its neighbourhood is very great, and learns from good authority that there are 40,000, the greater part weavers. The agricultural labourers remain generally in Wigton and Ayr. One would think that this influx has operated to depress the wages in Glasgow and its vicinity; but Mr. Campbell is not aware that it has had that effect. The Irish labourers do not live so comfortably as the Scotch, and their presence is found a great grievance,

Mr. Arch.
Campbell.
Page 201.

as the subsistence is, from that circumstance, much increased in price; but he does not think that the population are aware of it. This influx does not strike Mr. Campbell as depressing the station of life which artisans occupy; but having little knowledge of the state of the manufactures, he cannot speak with certainty on the subject. He believes that an Irish labourer can pass over to Scotland for about 4*l.* sterling.

Mr. Rolph. JOHN ROLPH, Esq., is a member of the legislature in Upper Canada; has looked over the evidence of the Solicitor-general and Dr. Strachan, and decidedly concurs, in so far as emigration is concerned; and has not the least doubt of the settler's ability to commence, after a period of seven years, the re-payment of the money advanced for his emigration; and if he made any difficulty, the land would be an ample security. It is, indeed, difficult at present to sell land at all; but if there were emigration, the value would increase in proportion to the population. Still there would be an interchange of property with the old settlers, and pauper-settlers would undertake the conditions of their predecessors; and Mr. Rolph has no doubt but that there are in the colony old settlers who would be glad to take such farms. He is in the habit of letting farms, receiving one-third of the produce, and the stock double in three years; of course, in such cases, he takes the produce in kind. There would be no prejudice against making this sort of payment, on the score of its being considered as rent, as long as they understood it. Mr. Rolph conceives that there is no danger with respect to the number of emigrants that might be located in Upper Canada, upon the principles of those already sent out in 1823 and 1825; for, under such

Page 204.

Page 204.

conditions, the greater the number the more they would assist and keep each other in countenance. And provided 20,000 were located in the first three years, there would be no matter how many went out afterwards; for there would be a surplus produce from those who had at first emigrated. He has no doubt but that, if emigrants were properly selected from different parts of the country, where there was an excess of population, they would, after being settled in Canada, invite their friends, and produce a voluntary Page 206. emigration, without the aid of Government; because this is the case at present in numberless instances. And if the sums to be repaid were applied for the purposes of the province, in liquidation of some expenses now incurred by the mother-country, it would be satisfactory to the inhabitants. The opinion is universal that the clergy-reserves are an impediment, chiefly as an interruption to roads; because they are, generally speaking, unoccupied, and there is no limitation to their occupation after the settlement of a township. There was an address of the House of Assembly for applying the reserves to the support of clergymen of different denominations, or of education, "but in which the legislative council did not concur."

Dr.
Strachan.

THOMAS ODELL, Esq., resides in the county of Limerick, where the general state of the poor is miserable indeed, the applicants for labour being so much above the demand that they earn almost nothing, not even sixpence per day. The removal of a part of the population would be advantageous to those who remain. The people are anxious to emigrate; for Mr. Odell applied, on behalf of a great portion, to the executive government. They consisted chiefly of persons who were reduced to a state of starvation by the division of

Mr.
Odell.

their small farms. Many who expected to be taken out by Mr. Robinson were disappointed, as he could only take a small number of those who offered. Some of them might have a little money, but they were all, more or less, in the character of paupers. Mr. Odell says, the practice of sub-letting continues, notwithstanding that clauses are introduced into the leases to prevent it; but he thinks that the proprietors will
Page 208. avail themselves of the late Act. If sub-letting be prevented, and no mode devised by Government for the support of the people, the consequences will be very serious.

Mr. Odell does not think that landlords would be able to come forward with a sum of money for the removal of the redundant population; if, indeed, the
Page 209. absentees were to subscribe, and the more intelligent of the local gentry, some might be induced to subscribe. He believes, on re-consideration, that many would be disposed to contribute if they had it in their power.
Page 210. He is of opinion that if the Government established a liberal system of emigration, it would soon extend far beyond what is calculated at present, and would materially benefit those who remained; but he thinks that the whole, or nearly the whole, of the original outlay must come from Government.

Mr. THOMAS SPRING RICE, Esq., M. P., considers the
S. Rice. population redundant in particular districts, but is not prepared to say that it is so, taking all Ireland together, if proper measures were taken.

Where the proprietor is in immediate contact with the occupier, benevolence and interest would combine in inducing him to pledge an annuity or fixed contri-
Page 111. bution; but where there are many intermediate tenants or middlemen, it might not be the interest of any to

come forward. No very great proportion of proprietors disposed to contribute are able to do so ; but as the number who take the management of their own estates is daily increasing, so would the disposition and ability to improve the condition of their tenantry, by contributing to a well-regulated system of emigration. For his own part, and speaking with regard to a majority of the inheritors of land with whom he has conversed, Mr. Rice is in favour of a fixed and immediate payment, rather than incumbering the property with an annuity ; and from the communications he has seen, he should think that, both on principles of benevolence and interest, they could have no hesitation in making advances equal to those which have been suggested in this committee. He can conceive cases to exist, in which facilities might be advantageously given by receiving the payments by instalments ; but as a general rule, he prefers, unquestionably, that of a fixed payment. On the whole, Mr. Rice is of opinion that there will be a very considerable disposition on the part of the Irish landlords to contribute. This evidence presupposes what he knows to be the fact, that the peasantry themselves are most anxious to profit by any scheme of emigration ; but it will be visible to the Committee, that any attempt at a forced emigration would be peculiarly inapplicable, cruel, and dangerous in Ireland :—it is upon the principle that a certain proportion of the population is anxious to go, and to seek for that happiness and comfort elsewhere, which they cannot find in Ireland, that he thinks the tenantry would be anxious to go, and the landlords to assist them, at a greater pecuniary sacrifice than any he has here heard mentioned.

Mr. WILLIAM HENRY BODKIN, Esq., is Secretary to the
Bodkin. Mendicinity Society, and has opportunities of knowing
Page 214. that the influx of Irish labourers into England has re-
17 May. duced the wages of some kinds of labour. In 1822 the
Society gave 8*d.* per ton for breaking stones, by which
a man would earn 1*s.* or 18*d.*; some only 8*d.*, or even
6*d.*; very few English would accept of such employ-
ment; but the Irish accepted it cheerfully, and were
sorry when it was discontinued, which the Society did
from a conviction that it was encouraging emigration
from Ireland to a fearful extent. The Irish would
flock over, had they a prospect of getting even 6*d.* a
Page 215. day. As bricklayers' labourers, and in the lower and
harder kinds of employment of that description, the
Irish are willing to work at lower wages than the Eng-
lish; and some particular kinds of labour they have
secured to themselves exclusively, for they are gene-
rally found willing to do those kinds of work to which
English labourers are averse.

Mr. Bodkin recommends an emigration of boys who
infest the metropolis, and from whom the gangs of
pickpockets and thieves are recruited. He thinks that
many would be inclined to go, particularly such as are
on the verge of profligacy and vice; and it might be
fairly expected, that when removed from their present
associations, and from the influence of bad example,
they would betake themselves to honest employment.
He is well acquainted with the public charities in Lon-
don, and thinks that it would be possible to combine,
with the general system of those charities, any well-di-
gested plan of emigration; for he has heard many of
their most active members so express themselves. He
does not think that London parishes would be disposed
to pay 3*l.* 10*s.* a year, for seven years, for removing a

family of four, because able-bodied labourers, which he presumes are contemplated, are not allowed to be permanently charged on the London parishes, and because the parishes would fear to induce people to become chargeable for the purpose.

COLONEL COCKBURN, in reference to question 1570, put to him on 28th April, submitted certain remarks, which, from their importance, are here given in full.

There appears (says Colonel Cockburn) to be no doubt that, if an emigration can be duly effected on an extensive scale, it will tend in a great measure to relieve the distresses existing in the mother-country, to improve the state of the colonies, and, at no very distant period, to establish, in a permanent and comfortable independence, many thousands of English, Irish, and Scotch, who are now experiencing all the horrors of beggary and want. Desirable, however, as it would be to carry through an arrangement so important and beneficial in its general results, it should not be concealed that the doing so must of necessity involve an expenditure of very considerable amount.

The evidence before the Committee would warrant, that the average cost of conveying a settler from this country, with a wife and three children, placing them on their lands, and supporting them for a year, would amount to about 110*l.*, or about 22*l.* for each individual.

Mr. Robinson's detailed statement, for the 568 emigrants, which he took out in 1823, averages a few shillings more; but the proportion of men on that occasion was very great; (a strong proof that 22*l.* may, generally speaking, be considered as amply sufficient.) The sum paid by Mr. Robinson, for the passage and

provisions from Ireland to Quebec, amounted to about 7*l.* each; it would therefore be correct to divide the total expenditure into 7*l.* for the voyage, and 15*l.* for all ulterior charges. It will be seen, by reference to a report, which I had the honour of drawing up for the information of Lord Dalhousie, in the year 1821, and which his Lordship forwarded to the Colonial Department, that 167 families, sent out from Lanarkshire, averaged, as nearly as possible, five individuals to each family, the total number being 833, and that the expense incurred on account thereof, exclusive of the voyage to Quebec, was 11*l.* 3*s.* 7*d.* each. But Mr. Robinson's settlers were provided with the following articles, none of which were estimated for in the enumeration of articles supplied to the Lanark settlers;—*viz.*

182 cows	£ 819
Farming utensils	230
Assistance in building houses	450
Guides to show the lands	150
Seed-corn and seed-potatoes	364
Medical advice and medicines	100
Shoes and flannel	150

Total . . £ 2,263

Which, if divided amongst the 568 settlers, will account for near 4*l.* to each; thus making the expenditure on the Lanark emigration in 1820, and that conducted by Mr. Robinson in 1823, nearly equal. It should, however, be observed, in making this comparison, that the Lanark settlers were charged three shillings each for expenses of survey, and five shillings and ten-pence each for their patent grants; and that the assistance afforded to the Lanark settlers, after being placed on their lands, was an advance in money

by different instalments, amounting in the whole to 8*l*. for each settler, whether man, woman, or child, and which sum would have been equal to supplying provisions for them for eighteen months, the full ration consisting of one pound of flour and one pound of pork, and each of the 167 families receiving rations in the following proportions; *viz.*—for

1 man	.	.	.	1 full ration
1 woman	.	.	.	$\frac{1}{2}$ ditto
2 children	.	.	.	$\frac{1}{3}$ ditto
1 child	.	.	.	$\frac{1}{4}$ ditto

The Returns from which these calculations are taken, are herewith transmitted, and marked Nos. 1 and 2. A return of implements supplied to the Lanark settlers is also transmitted, marked No. 3. I have been thus detailed in my reference to the relative expense incurred on account of the Lanark settlers sent out in 1820, and those of the settlers which went from Ireland in 1823, under the superintendence of Mr. Robinson, in the hope of thus affording to the Committee a fair data on which to estimate the expense of future emigration. In sending settlers to Upper Canada on any future occasions, I am not aware of any material saving which could be expected to take place. The present low state of transport, and making some alteration in the ration to be issued on the passage out, might reduce the charge from England to Quebec. I send herewith a return marked No. 4, showing the prices at which the Navy Board would probably at the present time obtain contracts for conveyance and victualling of emigrants to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, and Montreal, by which the Committee will see the utmost savings which can be made in these respects, unless it be deemed expedient to make some alteration in the

(Not
entered.)

ration, and to substitute potatoes in the early part of the voyage, and oatmeal in the latter part, and dried fish during the whole period, in lieu of the pork, beef, and flour, at present issued. The expense of conveying the Lanark settlers from Quebec to the place of settlement was estimated, by the return marked No. 1, at 2*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.* each. The expense for the Irish emigrants, sent out in 1823, I should imagine was about the same; but the statements in Appendix No. 2, from page 58 to 61, are not sufficiently explicit to enable me to make an accurate comparison. The statement in Appendix No. 1, page 22, makes the expense of conveying a settler from Quebec to the place of his location 6*l.* 15*s.* This seems to me much over-rated, unless the emigrant is to be sent to the very distant part of the province. The statement of similar description, in page 23, estimates the expense at 3*l.* 5*s.*; one-half less than the preceding one. I take it, however, that the statement concerning the Lanark settlers, contained in return No. 2, and confirmed by Mr. Robinson's returns, will give a fair average of this part of the expenditure, and that the several items of expenditure cannot be estimated less than as follows:—

	£.	s.	d.
Voyage to Quebec . . .	6	0	0
From Quebec to place of settlement	2	10	0
Expense on land, including a cow to every four persons . . .	12	10	0
	£ 21	0	0

And that even to keep it as low as this, will require great care and management. The only practicable way, then, of lowering the expense of sending out and providing for the emigrants, must be by changing the

place to which they are to be sent; and in naming to the Committee the different places which suggest themselves in British North America, as fit for the reception of settlers, I shall endeavour to bring under consideration the relative advantages and disadvantages of each.

Mr. Uniacke, in his evidence before the Committee, speaks in favourable terms of this province, and states the vacant and good disposable lands of the crown therein at 1,500,000 or 2,000,000 of acres, which, if the latter case be correct, would be sufficient for 20,000 heads of families at 100 acres each. In sending settlers to Nova Scotia the voyage might be considered as one-third shorter, and a saving be therefore expected in the price of transport; but not to the extent of one-third, as the difficulty of obtaining freight from Halifax would in some degree operate to the disadvantage of the ship. A saving from the place of disembarkation to the place of settlement might also be reckoned upon. Meat and flour are, I should imagine, of somewhat higher value here than in Canada; but if fish and potatoes were substituted as part of the provisions to be supplied to the emigrants, a great saving might be made in this respect, and the items of expenditure might then be supposed to stand as follows:

Nova
Scotia.

Voyage	£ 5 0 0
Transport to place of settlement	1 10 0
Provisions, including a cow to every four settlers, and supposing fish and pota- toes to form a part of the rations	10 10 0
	17 0 0

The latitude of Nova Scotia, and that part of Upper Canada to which the settlers have lately been sent, is

nearly the same. The climate of the two places is also very similar; but I should take Nova Scotia, from its vicinity to the sea, to be rather the healthier of the two; and the collieries in this part of British America hold out some further inducement to prefer sending settlers to it, rather than to either of the Canadas. If, then, these circumstances are considered, together with the relative expenses of sending settlers to Canada or to Nova Scotia, it will, I think, appear manifest to the Committee that the latter place holds out too many advantages to be overlooked, if any general emigration should be decided on.

New Brunswick, Cape Breton, Prince Edward's Island

New Brunswick, Cape Breton, and Prince Edward's Island, although as yet not so far advanced in agricultural improvements as Nova Scotia, have each a considerable portion of good and vacant lands, say New Brunswick 2,000,000, or much more, if the boundary line is run in compliance with the claims of Great Britain.

Cape Breton 600,000.

Prince Edward's Island 50,000. But as these places are similarly situated, and hold out similar advantages as Nova Scotia, I shall class them therewith.

Gaspé.

The next nearest place for settlements is the eastern part of the Canadas, *viz.*, the district of Gaspé; and however much it may have been hitherto neglected, there are few parts of British America better worth attending to; this seems to be the very key to the St. Lawrence. The bay of Chaleur affords many good and safe harbours and anchorages, but none finer (indeed I believe there can be none finer) than the bay of Gaspé. There is already a considerable trade both in fish and timber to this place, which I have no doubt would materially increase in the event of the number of inhabit-

*Publ. of the
St. Lawrence* ants being augmented, by directing a part of the stream of emigration to this neighbourhood. It has long appeared very desirable, and for many reasons, that a communication from New Brunswick to Quebec, through the district of Gaspé, by the lake and river called Matapedia, and thence towards and along the shores of the St. Lawrence, should be established. The quantity of good and vacant land in this district is very considerable, and the supply of fish (but particularly salmon, herrings, and cod) highly abundant. The objections to this district are, the very few inhabitants, the small proportion of land which has been improved, owing to the greater part of the inhabitants living by fishing rather than by agriculture, the small supply of cattle and other provisions, the great want of roads, and the coldness of the climate. With respect to the latter, the inhabitants have, however, invariably stated it to be quite as good, or better, than Quebec. Most of these objections would evidently and gradually diminish as the country was settled; and the district of Gaspé, no doubt, become as valuable a possession to the mother-country as any part of British America, the attention of government once directed to this place. And I cannot but believe, that Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Lower Canada, would each contribute towards effecting a good and practicable road between Halifax and Quebec.

The next place in ascending the river St. Lawrence, River Saguenay, where settlements might be effected to considerable extent, and with a fair prospect of success, is on the river Saguenay. The harbour of Tadousac, which is at the mouth of the Saguenay, is rather more than one degree to the northward of Quebec, and on this spot there are a few houses. The river Saguenay has not

been regularly surveyed ; many persons have, however, ascended it, and from their reports it appears that this river takes a westerly direction, and is navigable for ninety miles, even for ships of heavy tonnage. The timber is said to be of that description which indicates good land ; the climate to be about the same as at Quebec, and the fact of melons ripening in the open air has been ascertained. There can be no doubt, were settlements effected on this river, a large supply of fish might be obtained ; but it will be evident all other supplies must, in the first instance, be sent there. The fineness of this river has long excited a wish to have settlements in its neighbourhood, and the doing so would certainly open a new timber country of much easier access from the ocean than any of those situated higher on the St. Lawrence.

Lower Canada.

The two parts of Lower Canada where there is the largest portion of vacant lands to be granted in free and common soccage, are the eastern townships and the left bank of the Grand or Ottawa river. There can be no doubt, that either the one or the other will afford sufficient means of locating a very large proportion of emigrants, but my own opinion is decidedly in favour of establishing the emigrants on the lands in the neighbourhood of the Ottawa, in preference to sending them to the eastern townships, for the following reasons :—

The French Canadians are apprehensive (and I think not without some cause) that ere long there will be a scarcity of that description of vacant lands, the particular tenure of which they consider best suited to their habits, and to which they have been invariably accustomed ; the increase of their population of course affords just grounds for the increase of this apprehension. The distance and difficulty of communication from the east-

ern townships towards the river St. Lawrence is in evidence before the Committee; but I think no questions were asked as to the communications between the townships and the United States, otherwise it would also, I believe, have appeared that in such respect very little, if any difficulty, exists. If, then, the communication from the townships to the States is good, and to the St. Lawrence bad, it is surely evident that to the States the attention of those who settle in the townships will inevitably be directed. I have long regretted the encouragement which has of late been given to opening communications from the United States towards the south bank of the St. Lawrence; in the event of future wars, the impolicy of having so done will, I suspect, be felt. The barrier which *The Bush* afforded was the best which could be offered; it can no longer be said to exist. The best which can be offered in its place is a dense population of French Canadians, who, from the entire difference, not only in language and religion, but in every habit of life, will, I firmly believe, never be induced to mix or traffic with the Americans. Would it not be well, then, to appropriate the waste lands in that direction to an extension of seigneuries, and a continuous chain of French Canadian settlements from the St. Lawrence towards the States? The Forest.

A better militia than that of Lower Canada does not exist; a more tractable or well-disposed people than the lower orders of French Canadians I never saw. The front townships on the left bank of the Ottawa are, I fear, already disposed of; and this is the more to be lamented, as until arriving at Hull, scarcely any improvements have been made therein; were these front townships vacant, they would, on every account, be as

valuable as any lands in either province: their short distance from Montreal, the fine navigable river on which they are situated, the rich timber with which they are covered, the fertility of the extensive valleys lying in their rear, and the entire security of situation from American inroad or communication, all enhance their value; in addition to which, a canal is now cutting by government, in the township of Grenville, to enable vessels to pass up and down, without encountering the difficulties and dangers of the Long Sault Rapids, and with a view to establishing a communication between Lower Canada and the Upper Province distinct from the St. Lawrence. It is on these grounds that I should recommend the vacant lands nearest to the Ottawa, as more eligible for settlements than any others above Quebec; many rivers and streams run through them, and discharge into the Ottawa, which, in this part of it, is in no way inferior to the St. Lawrence, with the great and powerful advantage of having both its banks in your own possession. In proceeding up the Ottawa river there is no fear of settlers being allured over to the States; on placing them on lands in its vicinity, there is a fair prospect of their retaining the feelings and habits of the country they have left. Should the idea of making a water-communication from the Ottawa to Kingston, in Upper Canada, by means of the Rideau, be put in force, settlers so placed will be in the immediate neighbourhood, to assist in and be assisted by so extensive an undertaking. It is true there is a want of roads in this part of the country, but even in this respect I am not aware of any place where opening communications will be attended with more lasting or increasing advantages, or where less expenditure in this way will be re-

quired. A reference to any map of the Canadas will more fully explain to the Committee the advantages of this situation. The agricultural success and opinions of a man of the name of Wright, who has settled in the township of Hull, is, perhaps, the best proof that can be offered of the capability and richness of the soil.

The relative advantages of the various but more distant situations in Upper Canada are too well known to the Committee to require my entering into detail thereon; I shall, therefore, merely suggest, that on account of our principal naval depôt for Lakes Erie and Huron being now at Penetaugushine, I should recommend, in the event of emigrants being sent as far as York, that settlements should be established between Lakes Simcoe and Huron, in the vicinity of the Penetaugushine Road, and extending towards the Notawasawga River. The Committee are so fully aware of the nuisance arising from the clergy reserves, the hinderance to settlement, and the enormous additional expense incurred in establishing emigrants, owing to the want of roads, and to the inconvenience and injustice of persons holding large tracts of land, without in any way contributing to their improvement, that it will be unnecessary to enlarge thereon. I shall, therefore, conclude this statement with such remarks as I consider in like manner applicable to new settlements in general. No time should be lost in directing the officers administering the governments in the different colonies to send home returns, pointing out the different townships that have been laid out, the years they were surveyed, the present state of their population, the number of lots they contain, and distinguishing as minutely as possible the number of lots granted, and the

number still remaining vacant in each ; or if emigration is really to be encouraged, I would suggest that some person should proceed to the different colonies to obtain still further and more particular information on the spot, and to make the necessary arrangements, in conjunction with the governors. The earlier communication could be had with the different counties in England, Scotland, and Ireland, so as to acquire some idea of the numbers wishing to go out, the better it would be ; and I have no doubt that long notice of transport being required, would tend to the obtaining it at a lower rate. The number of emigrants to be sent out, once fixed upon, arrangements should be made for their subsequent removal from their present homes to the place of embarkation. At this first stage of their proceeding, the necessity of some positive limitation as respects the quality and quantity of baggage must be made. For the sake of stowage, their packages should be of equal and square sizes, and the number of them depend on the number of the family. This, perhaps, is one of the most important regulations connected with an extensive system of emigration ; and if not duly enforced, the number of absurd and useless articles, for which Government will have to pay the transport, will be beyond description. Their place of disembarkation must, of course, depend on the particular parts of the different provinces to which they are to be sent ; but this also should be fixed on as soon as possible, so as to afford early information thereon to the persons who must be employed in arranging the means of transport from the place of disembarkation to the place of settlement. And here perhaps it may be proper to suggest, that if there is any place in the provinces where emigrants are likely to be disembarked

in numbers for a continuance of years, it would be right to have some public building appropriated to their use during the time they remain, and an hospital, in which any of those may be placed who from sickness or other casualties on the voyage may be unable to proceed without such arrangement. The disembarkation of a number of emigrants would be a tax and annoyance beyond description to the inhabitants of the place. Each settlement should consist of four townships, and be under the direction of a superintendent, who would require the assistance of two clerks and two issuers. As the land in these four townships was taken up, the settling department, as above, might remove to other townships. Half-pay officers might perhaps be the best and most economical persons to fill the situations of superintendents. It would, I think, be well that a central spot should be fixed upon in each settlement, where the government might in the first instance clear and fence a space of about thirty acres, on which the storehouses and superintendent's office might be built with greater security from fire; the extra ground to be planted with potatoes, onions, and such like, and the produce appropriated to the support of the settlers, and as a part of their rations. A saw and grist mill would also tend in great measure to forward the prosperity of the settlement, and would doubtless in a very short time more than repay the original cost. Large buildings to be used as schools, and wherein the younger children of the settlers might be kept, would relieve the parents from the trouble of attending to the children, and thus place the parents at liberty to pursue without interruption the improvement of their locations. These buildings might, in the first instance, be used as churches, and

clergymen of the different religions should be sent to the settlement. The space cleared by government might, as opportunities offered, be given out in acre and half-acre lots, for the formation of a village; but no lot should be so given without due means being taken for ascertaining that the person receiving it will immediately erect a house thereon. Roads must be opened from the old settled to the new settled country; and it should be considered, that every pound laid out in this way will not only tend to the general advantage of the settlement, but most materially lower the price of transport. Tracks should also be cut through the woods, for the benefit of settlers coming in to fetch their provisions; and occasional finger-posts at the corners of the lots might prove very useful, and lessen the employment of guides. It should be a standing rule, that no person connected with the settling department should on any account receive lands within the settlement to which he belongs. Diagrams of the townships should be kept at the superintendent's office, for the public inspection of the settlements, so that persons entitled to receive lands might see the situation of the vacant lots, and choose for themselves; but no person should be located until he has seen and examined the lot he asks for, and then, previous to being located, he should sign, in a book to be kept for that purpose, that he has examined and is satisfied with his lot; after which no exchange should be allowed. The rules and regulations of the settlement should be read to every settler previous to his being located; and he should also sign to having heard, understood, and agreed to abide by them. No printed location-tickets should be given; they tend to make the settler imagine he has irrevocable possession

of his lot, and I have even known them converted to fraudulent purposes. In addition to their rations, the settler should receive seed-corn for their first crops, tools, nails, hinges, glass, &c., to assist them in building their houses; a proportion of blankets on particular occasions, and in some cases assistance in the coarser articles of clothing; leaving it at the discretion of the superintendents to grant additional assistance as a reward for industry, exertion, and good conduct, or in cases of sickness, wounds, or fires, might be beneficial; but whenever additional assistance is given, the reason for so doing should be publicly recorded. There should be a clever, humane, and active medical man in each settlement: persons on the half-pay of the army medical department would perhaps be the most fit and economical for this purpose.' No lot should be appropriated or reserved on any pretence whatever, even for a single day, for persons not on the spot, and actually ready to commence its improvement. No settler should be allowed to leave the settlement without obtaining a previous permission so to do from the settling department; and if he does, his lot should be given to some other person; and this should be one of the rules most strongly impressed on the settler's mind. The common period for furnishing a settler with his deed is at the expiration of three years after he has commenced his improvement; and as it is to the possession of his deed that he looks forward as a reward for all his trouble, deprivation, and fatigue, it would, I think, be better that the deed should be so worded as to secure the government in the repayment of any sum advanced for the settler, rather than be withheld for a protracted period. I have already stated to the Committee my conviction, that an extensive system of emigration can only succeed if

carried on under the immediate control of the colonial office. The officers abroad will of course be in constant communication with the office at home; similar books and diagrams will of course be kept in London to those which are kept at the settlements, so that every previous information may be obtained here by those going out, as to the situation, success, &c., of those who have preceded them; the office in London would of course be also in constant communication with the different counties in England, Ireland, and Scotland; a general system of information might thus be regularly kept up. I have not considered myself in any way called upon, or indeed adequate, to discuss the mode of procuring funds to carry through an extensive system of emigration; but I would suggest, in mere allusion to this difficult and important part of the subject, whether some arrangement might not be made with those persons who hold large and valuable tracts of land in the colonies, either to receive and place settlers thereon, or to assist in defraying some portion of the expense of the emigration about to take place. Were courts of escheat once established, I cannot but think it would be of great and immediate advantage, for it would either oblige the proprietors to improve their lands, or would repossess the crown of millions of acres which might be settled at, comparatively speaking, a cheap rate; or might be sold for sums which would more than defray the present proposed expenditure. Having thus, in compliance with the directions of the Committee, offered some remarks upon what appear to me to be the leading points connected with the system of emigration and settlements, I will merely add my readiness to enter into further details, either generally or upon particular points, whenever called upon so to do.

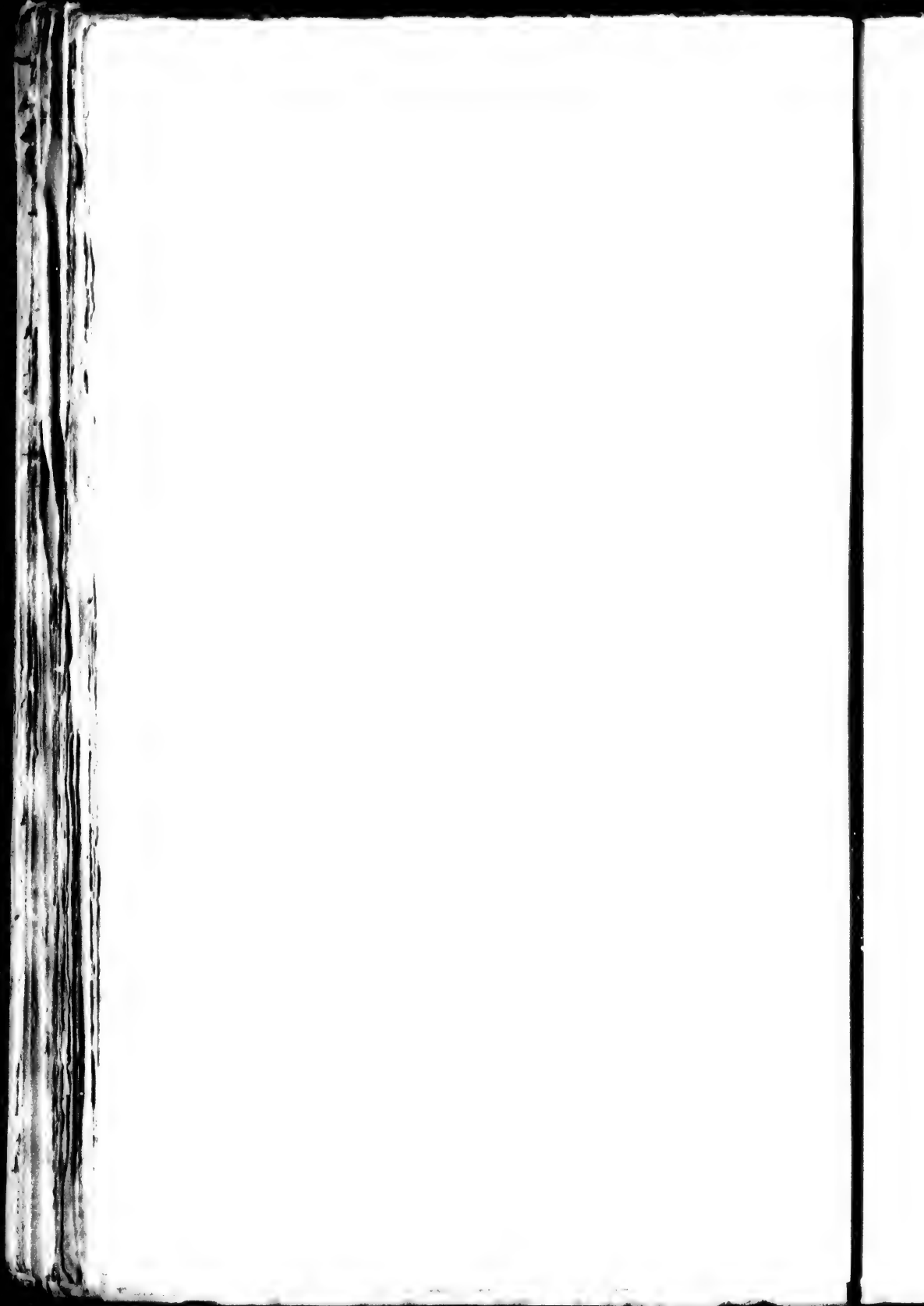
Mr. WILLIAM SHEPHERD has been only nine months returned from the Cape of Good Hope; is of opinion that the present rate of wages at the Cape shows a deficiency in the labouring population, and that an emigration of labourers and artisans might be very beneficially encouraged to the colony. The wages of a labourer per day is from 3s. to 4s., and of an artisan from 5s. to 6s., and their maintenance about 2s. 6d. per day, by which an artisan would save 3s. or 4s. He does not think that the inhabitants of the Cape would be willing to guarantee to government the passage of indentured emigrants, because the present wages are too high, and may fall. Some perhaps might do it. The demand for labour is principally at Albany. Mr. Shepherd thinks that a resident settler at the Cape would employ a pauper from Ireland at the rate of 3s. per day; this pauper could maintain himself for 2s., and therefore, by deducting 1s. per day, he would, in little more than one year, repay 16%, the expense of his removal from Ireland. An artisan might get 5s. a day; deduct 3s. for lodging and subsistence, leaves 2s., which would pay his passage in little more than half a year. The number of emigrants, with reference to those two classes, agricultural labourers and artisans, which the colony could absorb, would be about 500.

Mr.
Shepherd.
Page 226.

Page 228.

WM. BOWMAN FELTON, Esq., states that the climate of Canada is favourable to the cultivation of hemp, but the high price of labour renders the cultivation of it unprofitable, and it must remain so till the population becomes more dense, except some such plan as that which he suggested should be found practicable.

Page 229.



ANALYSIS OF THE APPENDIX

TO THE
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EMIGRATION.

No. I.

CONTAINS extracts from reports of American canal Page 233.
commissioners, by which it appears, that before the Erie or New York Canal, joining Lake Erie with the Hudson river, was begun, two plans were in agitation : the one, which has since been executed, the other to join Lakes Erie and Ontario, by cutting a canal on the American side round the Falls of Niagara, similar to the Welland Canal, now cutting on the British side. It was imagined, that if the produce of the countries west of the cataract was once afloat on Lake Ontario, it would, generally speaking, go to Montreal ; and therefore it would be bad policy in the United States to open a communication for sloops from Erie to Ontario, from which there are only 206 feet lockage to the tide-waters of the St. Lawrence, while it is 574 feet to the tide-waters of the Hudson ; consequently, the fear of diverting all the trade of the upper lakes to Montreal instead of New York determined them to adopt an internal canal. These extracts also show, that to connect Ontario with the tide-waters of the St. Lawrence, only sixty miles of canal are necessary, averaging about 34 inches per mile, very little deep cutting, the soil easy to dig, few or no streams or ravines to cross, and the supply of water certain and inexhaustible.

The most serious objection, say the American canal Page 234.
commissioners, to the route by Lake Ontario (now

effecting by the Welland Canal) is, that it will inevitably enrich the territory of a foreign power at the expense of the United States. When a vessel once descends into Ontario, she will pursue the course ordained by nature. The British government is fully aware of this, and are now taking the most active measures to facilitate the passage down the St. Lawrence.

No. II.

Consists of papers respecting the expense of emigration to New South Wales, delivered by Mr. Eager. They give an outline of a plan for the conveyance and settlement of paupers in New South Wales, a country which possesses peculiar advantages for the accommodation of that immense mass of pauper population which press so heavily on Great Britain and Ireland. In New South Wales or Van Diemen's Land, the climate is good. Small-pox, measles, and hooping-cough are unknown—all domestic animals thrive—the soil is fruitful. One section only of New South Wales explored by Surveyor-General Oxley contains 62,500 square miles, or 40,000,000 acres, ten millions of which are on the banks of rivers and streams, well-watered, rich, fertile, and valuable for all purposes of grazing, cultivation, and settlement, and capable of producing in the greatest abundance wheat, barley, oats, Indian corn, tobacco, flax, and hemp, wine and oil, and of rearing and feeding horned cattle, horses, and fine woolled sheep, without number.

New South Wales excels every other British colony for poor emigrants in the article of convict labour, if properly applied. There are, at this present time, 1826, upwards of 25,000 male convicts, able-bodied crown labourers; of these 15,000 is quite a sufficient number

to be distributed among the settlers in the colony, and employed in the government works, and the remaining 10,000 are ready on the spot to be employed in clearing and preparing land for emigrants. Now the government has to feed, clothe, and lodge all the convicts not distributed among the colonists; and if these 10,000 labourers, or even part of them, were employed in clearing and fencing farms, and erecting houses on them, they would clear and fence a sufficient quantity of land every year for several thousand farms, besides erecting a house on each. Five thousand five hundred convict labourers will every year prepare 5,000 farms, with a good house and a sufficient quantity of cleared land, fenced and fitted for immediate cultivation, each adapted for the immediate reception and comfortable settlement of a labouring family. And all this may be done at little or no expense, it appearing, by Mr. Eager's estimate, that each farm will only cost 3*l.*, the price of implements and materials, or, to speak more correctly, the real expense that government would incur in preparing 5,000 farms would be the bare cost of materials bought in England, which amounts only to 3,000*l.*, or to 13*s.* 4*d.* per farm; because the convicts employed in preparing the farms must be subsisted at all events, and implements must be provided for them whatever labour they may be put to. Page 239.

Thus government possesses in New South Wales the means of preparing, at the trifling expense of 3,000*l.*, Page 240. comfortable farms for 5,000 labouring families annually. The expense of transporting, settling, and subsisting for one year these 5,000 families, (consisting each of a husband and wife and three children, or five persons,) according to Mr. Eager's estimate, amounts to 752,500*l.*, or 150*l.* 10*s.* for each family.

Mr. Eager derives the fund for defraying this expense from two sources—first from the poor-rates, and next from annual rents to be paid by the emigrants for their farms, commencing within a certain period after their settlement. The plan is, that 10*l.* per annum shall be paid from the poor-rates for fourteen years on account of each family of five persons sent out. The emigrant to pay an annual rent of 10*l.*, to commence at the end of the third year. Mr. Eager proceeds to submit a detailed plan of pauper emigration; and in order to ascertain the redundant population, he takes the amount of poor-rates as the best criterion; for the redundancy he considers to be exactly the number, which, making allowance for aged and impotent poor and over competition, the poor-rates will wholly subsist throughout the year, which, from various calculations, he believes to be 688,355 persons, or 140,481 families, subsisted by poor-rates, who ought to be subsisted by the wages of labour, at an expense of nearly 5,000,000*l.* sterling per annum, 3*l.* 11*s.* 9½*d.* per family; and he concludes, that nearly the whole of this, or 30*l.*, will be saved to the parish for every family that shall emigrate.

Page 248. The principles of the plan are—

1st. That the families to emigrate from each parish in England and Wales shall bear the same proportion to the paupers in such parish as the 5,000 families to the whole number of pauper families, *viz.*, 140,481.

2d. That at first, families volunteering to emigrate from their parishes to be preferred; then to be chosen by ballot; and such as refuse to emigrate, to be rendered incapable of parochial relief.

3d. That every family emigrating shall consist of an able-bodied healthy married labourer, mechanic, or

artisan, having a wife and, at least, two children; it being understood that none will be received but able-bodied labouring men, having families.

4th. That a contribution of 10*l.* per annum for fourteen years shall be paid from the poor-rates to the emigration fund for every family of five persons, to be applied in discharge of the expense of the conveyance and settlement of the emigrants at New South Wales.

5th. That each emigrant shall pay a rent for his farm of 10*l.* per annum in perpetuity, to commence the third year of his settlement, to be carried to the emigration fund, and applied in carrying on the system.

6th. That the money annually required to defray the expense of the conveyance and settlement of emigrants shall be raised, in the first instance, by loan, bearing four per cent. interest, to be secured by stock created on the rate, and guaranteed by Parliament.

7th. That the contribution from the rent shall be applied, first in payment of the interest of the loan, then in discharging the annual expense of the system, and the surplus, as it arises, in liquidation of the loan until paid off.

8th. That a board of emigration be established, consisting of members in England, and members in the colony of New South Wales, to conduct and manage the whole system.

Mr. Eager allows twenty-six years for completing the whole transaction, at the expiration of which period 140,481 families have emigrated; and, according to his calculation, the poor-rates reduced by the sum of 5,600,000*l.*, besides paying up the money borrowed, and reserving annual rents in the colony to the amount of 1,400,000*l.* This plan does not call for the Page 255. imposition of any additional expense upon any class,

or fund in the state; on the contrary, its great feature is the immediate and permanent relief it will afford to the poor-rates. Indeed it is capable, Mr. Eager says, of demonstration, that the effect of the plan would be, not only to remove pauperism and reduce the poor-rates, but defray the entire expense of the

Page 256. criminal police of the empire. The plan will also be most beneficial in a variety of ways. It will become a school of correction and reform to the convicts employed, and more than compensate the state for the expense of their maintenance, by converting them into profitable labourers. It will create a British colony rich in climate, soil, and natural resources; employ 50,000 tons of shipping and 4000 sailors annually; open an increasing market for British industry and manufactures, and place the maritime and mercantile power of the empire on the most advantageous footing in the Indian and Pacific oceans. In a word, England will be relieved of her paupers, who, instead of being burdensome, will be converted into productive and profitable members of the state; the wages of labour will be raised to their just and natural standard, and realize all the moral and political advantages which must naturally result from the gradual extinction of pauperism and the poor-rates.

Page 258. Mr. Eager next applies his plan of emigration to Ireland, where there are no poor-rates, proposing an assessment of 2*l.* 12*s.* per family on each parish, to continue forty-five years, the present value of such an annuity being 52*l.*, and a loan of 100*l.* for each family, to be repaid by the emigrant, making up 152*l.*, the expense of transporting, settling, and subsisting a family for a year.

The emigrant may the first year have ten acres in

cultivation, and reap 150 bushels of maize; the second year fifteen acres, and his produce 150 bushels of maize and 100 bushels of wheat, of which he will consume 50 bushels of each; the remainder he may sell, 100 bushels of maize at 3s. 6d., and 50 of wheat at 7s.—35l., and his expenses of all kinds for clothing, tea, sugar, &c., will not exceed 30l.

The third year his surplus produce will sell for 43l. 15s., so that, after retaining as much as he expended for necessaries the second year, he will be able to pay a rent of 10l. Every future year the farm will be in full cultivation.

Mr. Eager next proceeds to apply his plan to emigrants possessing small capitals of 50l., 100l., and 200l. respectively. Each class will require assistance from Government. The first class, to the amount of 127l., each family, to be repaid by instalments of 20l., which, from estimates, it appears the settler may commence at the expiration of the second year; and at the end of the ninth the debt, with interest, will be paid up. Page 269
to 280.

Class 2d, having 100l. capital, will require, each family, assistance from Government to the amount of 110l. 10s., to be repaid as before by instalments, which the settler will accomplish at the end of the eighth year.

Class 3d, having a capital of 200l., require assistance, each family, of about 78l., which may be paid in two instalments, the third and fourth year of the settlement.

The expense of carrying 120 single women to New South Wales, including everything necessary, Mr. Eager estimates at 27l. each. Persons of this description, it appears, are very much wanted, the male population being much greater than the female. Page 282.

No. III.

Page 283. On the subject of Emigration to the Cape of Good Hope from Ireland, of 400 individuals at the public expense.—Mr. Ingram arrived in the colony in the month of April, 1820, with twenty-seven men, twelve women, and twenty-nine children. The men were chiefly mechanics and labourers, for whom the sums required to be deposited were advanced by Mr. Ingram in England, for which they were to serve him three years at a certain low wages, and at the end of that term to receive the sum of 10*l.*, or twenty acres of land.

Mr. Ingram states, that 407 persons were mustered on board the *Barosa*, which the Commissioners, who make this report, believe was faithfully performed; but 352 persons only disembarked, although no deaths or accidents occurred during the passage. A large majority of these emigrants obtained employment by making agreements with new masters, or by agreement between them and Mr. Ingram to pay him 300 rix-dollars for each male, 200 for a female, and 150 for a child. On the 8th of July, 1824, one hundred and twenty men, forty-four women, and eighty-two children had been transferred to individuals in and near Cape Town. Fifty-one are employed by Mr. Ingram on his estate, or in preparing materials for building his wine-sten. Eight persons have died since their arrival, chiefly through the intemperate use of spirituous liquors, or by copious draughts of water taken in hot weather. In other respects the state of their

Page 283. general health has been good. Mechanics and useful tradesmen gain from three to four rix-dollars per day, with subsistence and lodging, and are in general doing

well. The common labourers generally demand a rix-dollar and a quarter or two rix-dollars per day, besides subsistence, which may be rated at half a rix-dollar; but they have not been able to procure regular labour at this rate—the hire of a slave, or free coloured labourer, not exceeding twenty rix-dollars per month, with subsistence and lodging. The great obstacle to their success is the large sums that they have engaged to pay Mr. Ingram. Children from twelve to fourteen years, as apprentices, have been much sought after; children of eight years can earn their subsistence; those of ten years obtain four or five rix-dollars per month, and more as they grow older. The price of labour, notwithstanding the importation of so many European labourers, does not seem affected; it is, nevertheless, nearly as low as comports with the maintenance of a large family; for though provisions are cheap in Cape Town, lodgings are dear. Mechanics and tradesmen of all descriptions find ready employment, both in town and country. It is admitted generally, that the importation of European labour has been beneficial to the colony, and the industrious labourers themselves are in general well-contented with their circumstances.

The supply of labour is still considered deficient, so that Mr. Ingram's experiment, on a limited scale as to numbers, and on terms more favourable to the labourers, might be encouraged by the British government with benefit to the colony, and especially to the district of Albany, where the wages of labour are very high, and not likely to be reduced by the natural supply. The remainder of the report is taken up with the mode of enforcing indentures, and advising that Europeans sent out may incur no more expense than what may be suf-

ficient to repay for sending them out, and the importance of extinguishing the evil of slavery in the newly-planted settlement of Albany.

No. IV.

Correspondence respecting the emigration conducted under Peter Robinson, Esq., in 1825. Colonel Fitzgibbon states, that he is a native of that part of Ireland whence these settlers came:—" I speak their own language, and have conversed with many of them; and I do assure those who feel an interest in the welfare of these poor people, that they make a very just estimate of the circumstances in which the government has placed them, and are grateful, in the highest degree, for all that has been done for them. They are almost all settled in their lots, and are making great exertions; some of them to an extent almost incredible." This letter is dated York, Upper Canada, Dec. 26, 1826, a few months after their arrival.

Tho. T. Orten writes from his Land Register Office, Port Hope, Dec. 13, 1825, which is in the vicinity of the former settlement—" Within a few days I have visited the township of Smith, &c. &c., and I find the emigrants are, for the greater part, gone on their lands allotted to them." And Thomas Alexander Stewart, Esq., writes from Duero, January 20, 1826:—" I am here living in the midst of them (emigrants); from twenty to thirty pass my door almost every day. I visit the camp every week, and at all times I take an opportunity of conversing with them on their affairs. I have always found them satisfied and happy. Some of them have told me, with tears in their eyes, that they never knew what happiness

"was until now." And Mr. Robinson, the Superintendent, writes to Mr. Wilmot Horton, Under Secretary of State, that the emigrants were in a fair way of realizing, in the fullest manner, every expectation which could have been formed, and that there was not the slightest ground, as there is not to this moment, for considering the emigration of 1825 disastrous in any sense of the word. After giving a short detail of the voyage to Quebec, and thence to the land allotted for the settlement in Upper Canada, the latter proceeds:—"The location of the emigrants, by far the most troublesome and laborious part of the service, has long since been completed, and I have had a small log-house built for each head of a family on their respective lots, where they reside; and it gives me much pleasure to be enabled to assure you, that they are obedient and well conducted, and busily employed in preparing their land for crops. Their letters to their friends in Ireland, a packet of which I now inclose, will abundantly prove what I assert."

Mr. Robinson incloses a return of Irish emigrants, settled in the district of Bathurst, Upper Canada, in the autumn of the year 1823, from which it appears that, on the 14th of March, 1826, or in less than two years and a half after their settlement, and including only two harvests, the total number of persons was 477; that there had been twenty deaths and sixty-three births. That these emigrants had cleared 778 acres of land, raised 4,826 bushels of grain, 21,469 bushels of potatoes, 11,145 bushels of turnips; had acquired 298 head of cattle, two horses, and 201 hogs. That the heads of families brought from Ireland were 182.

At the date of the return, heads of families	
on their respective lots	120
Dead	8
Absent without leave, but supposed to be	
in Canada	12
Gone to the United States	9
At work in Canada	32
Returned to Ireland	1
	182

Page 293. So much for the emigration of 1823; but Mr. Robinson also incloses the state of the Irish emigrants sent to Upper Canada under his superintendence, in the summer of 1825, dated 15th of March, 1826.

Embarked at Cove	2024
Joined in Canada	12
Born, and now in the district of Newcastle	33
	2069

Distribution.

Located in Newcastle district	1878
Ditto in Bathurst district	55
Met with friends, and remained in Quebec	
and Montreal	28
Absent without leave	4
Died on the passage, two men, two women,	
and eleven children	15
Remained at Kingston	2
Died in Canada, twenty-nine men, twelve	
women, and forty-six children	87
	2069

No. V.

Letters from the Comptroller of the Navy, &c., on
Page 294. the rate of contract for carrying emigrants from Ireland

to Quebec, state that the expense of freight varies, being subject to all the fluctuation of the trade of the country; and as the demand for shipping was greater in 1825 than in 1823, the freight was higher.

	£.	s.	d.
Total rate per head in 1823, for freight,			
provisions, surgeon, &c.	6	18	0
Ditto for 1825	7	14	10

being an increased expense, amounting to 16s. 10d.

No. VI.

Being a letter from the Agent of the Passengers' Office at Liverpool, on the charge of conveying emigrants from that town to America, dated Liverpool, May 4, Page 295. 1826, in which the writer, W. S. Fitz Hugh, says—
 “I have, during the last three years, engaged passengers for Quebec from this port as low as 2*l.* 10s. and 2*l.* each; and within this month past, single passengers have been taken for 3*l.*, the owners of the vessel paying out of that sum the expense of births, water-casks, and fuel.” Mr. Fitz Hugh adds an estimate of the expenses of chartering a vessel at Liverpool to carry passengers from a port in Ireland to Quebec:—

A vessel of 300 tons will accommodate 200 passengers, according to the usual proportion of children, that is, 109 adults, forty children under fourteen years, and fifty-one children under seven years.

	£.	s.	d.
Ship of 300 tons, at 21 <i>l.</i> per ton	315	0	0
Cost of timber, &c. in building births	26	0	0
Water-casks and water	69	0	0
Beds, bedding, &c.	100	0	0
	510	0	0

Average 2*l.* 11s. per head.

Provisions, if furnished by themselves, 1*l.* 10*s.*; if provided for them, 2*l.* The whole expense in the one case 4*l.* 1*s.*, and in the other 4*l.* 11*s.* The Passengers' office, of which Mr. Fitz Hugh is agent, was established by the American Chamber of Commerce at Liverpool, in consequence of the numerous impositions to which emigrants embarking at that port were exposed. Such impositions can be no longer effected, and passengers may be obtained, or ships chartered for emigrants, through Mr. Fitz Hugh, on the most economical terms.

No. VII.

Contains extracts from ten addresses to Sir Peregrine Maitland, from different districts of the Province of Upper Canada, expressing great satisfaction at the recent emigrations, and cherishing hopes that they will be continued "till the beautiful and extensive "tracts of unoccupied land shall be filled with an "industrious and loyal population." One of these addresses is from the Irish emigrants of 1825, whom his Excellency visited in February, 1826, in which they express the strongest gratitude to His Majesty's Government, and their satisfaction with the treatment they had received since they embarked.

No. VIII.

Consists of papers from the Colombian Agricultural Association, respecting the advantages to colonists in the tract granted to the Association by the Colombian
Page 301. government. The first is a letter to R. Wilmot Horton, Esq., M.P., chairman of the emigration committee, written by Sir Robert Wilson, at the desire of the directors of the Colombian Agricultural Association,

making an offer of a tract of two hundred thousand acres of land in the Gibraltar district, situated on the eastern shore of the Lake Maracaybo, that it may be settled by "British emigrants, sent out and located" by the British Government, free of all expense to the Association. Should, however, any aid be required from the artisans and mechanics now established at, or on their way to, Gibraltar, that aid would, of course, be given on such equitable terms of recompense as the British Government would not hesitate to allow."

Sir Robert Wilson states in his memorandum, that Page 304. the Colombian Association is possessed of one million of acres of land in Colombia; but, at present, they are desirous of settling two hundred thousand acres near the eastern side of the Lake Maracaybo. In selecting the lands, due regard has been paid to salubrity of climate, and its adaptation to the constitutions of Europeans. The first experiments in agriculture have been attended with the most favourable results: the harvest of maize, rice, &c., being described, by the last accounts, as about to commence, and the crops looking very promising. From these results the Association consider the previous representations of the fertility of the soil as, in a great measure, confirmed; and have, therefore, the less hesitation in holding out every encouragement to the industrious and enterprising emigrant. The privileges and immunities of settlers on the lands of the Association are stated in the contract with the Government of Colombia.

1. They shall be exempt from all military service during ten years, excepting as regards the local de-

fence, or the defence of the province in which the establishment is placed.

Page 306. 2. All agricultural implements and machinery shall be free of import duty ; and all ready-made clothing for the use of the colonists.

3. During six years, reckoned from the date of the establishment of each, they shall enjoy, both in the waste lands and in their persons, a total exemption from direct contributions and ecclesiastical tithes. —They shall, however, pay the excise, if there be any; the price of articles of monopoly which they shall consume, and generally all other contributions known under the title of indirect.

4. The colonists shall, however, be subject to municipal contributions, and those of the local police.

12. All the colonists, or settlers, who arrive in Colombia in consequence of this contract, shall strictly conform to the laws and constitution of the Republic.

13. It not being permitted openly to observe any other form of religion than the Roman Catholic, the colonists must, in this respect, conform to the laws and regulations of the constitution ; but they will not in any way be molested on account of their belief.

Page 308. Colombia produces, at present, cocoa, coffee, cotton, indigo, sugar, rice, maize, tobacco, wheat, and European grains.

No. IX.

Page 310. A letter from Major-General Smyth, respecting the distressed state of the population of the Scilly Islands, which arises from its excess. The population has more than doubled within the last thirty years, and the excess is an evil which is visible in all their em-

ployments, whether as causing the subdivision of their bits of land, or in the piloting of vessels. Formerly there were only four pilot-boats, now there are at least twenty. In making of kelp, there being only so much of the raw material to be gathered, or in the lobster fishery, by excessive competition they impoverish each other.

The portion of the population which might possibly be removable, consists of those who are least in the way at present, and who make no complaints; young men, from eighteen to twenty-eight years, though, no doubt, they partake of the island resources; and as they marry at an early age, and, from the perilous nature of their employment in their boats, it is calculated that not more than one-fourth of the males reach an advanced age; that one-third are drowned; and hence, of the number of families on the Island of St. Agnes, one-third consists of widows and their children. Page 311.

No. X.

Showing the relative proportion of births to burials in certain parishes in Sussex, delivered in to the Committee by Mr. Curteis.

1. *Beckley*, from 25th March, 1824, to 25th March, 1826.

Baptisms	107
Burials	27
Increase in two years . .	80

Dissenters are not comprehended in baptisms, but their burials are enumerated.

2. *Ewhurst*, for five years, beginning with 1821,
and ending with 1825.

Baptisms	210
Burials	74

Increase in five years .	136
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Dissenters' baptisms not included; their burials are.

3. *Herstmonceux*, for five years, beginning with 1821,
and ending with 1825.

Baptisms	172
Burials	69

Increase in five years .	103
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Dissenters not included in baptisms; their burials
are.

4. *Ninfield*, same five years.

Baptisms	123
Burials	55

Increase in five years .	68
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Dissenters' burials, but not baptisms, included.

5. *Wantley*, same five years.

Baptisms	129
Burials	63

Increase in five years .	66
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Dissenters' burials, but not baptisms, included.

Page 312.

No. XI.

Consists of extracts from evidence taken before the
Committee on the State of Ireland, 1824 and 1825.

22 May,
1824,

W. W. Becher, Esq., M.P., is aware that some expe-
riment has been tried in the County of Cork, with re-
ference to emigration, and that there was a disposition

on the part of the people to profit by the facilities to emigrate, which were last year (1823) held out to them. At first they were anxious to go, then they thought there was some trap or deception. Afterwards this impression was removed, and they became again anxious to go. Witness has seen many letters from the emigrants to their friends and relatives, describing, in terms of the greatest satisfaction, the way in which they had been treated, and pointing out to their friends the advantages of emigration to Canada. This has produced an anxiety to emigrate, and there was great disappointment at emigration not going on when Mr. Becher left home. The population is generally greater on farms held under middle-men than on other farms, and on re-letting such farms, the population is diminished, the number of houses reduced, and a number of small farms consolidated into large ones. This has, indeed, become the general practice; but Mr. Becher has not observed, that this system has yet been so acted upon as to dispossess any great number of people. They generally get settled somewhere; there is still abundant facility to get ground if they will offer for it. The disposition to consolidate farms increases, but not to lay them down in grass to any great extent. Landlords are now preventing under-letting if they can.

Page 313.

Dr. J. R. Elmore states, that it appears to be the disposition of the landlord to consolidate farms for his own sake, for if he has a farm of twenty acres, which people can manage, and there are twenty upon it, the eighteen are eating up the produce of the land; but if you turn these eighteen to productive labour, they will come to the other two, and will purchase every thing, supposing they earn only a few shillings per week.

16 June, 1824.

Page 313.

One Catholic gentleman, in witness's neighbourhood, gives no leases; he has a large estate, and is also a middle-man. The people are satisfied with his word, and he gets more rent than any other person, because he attends to their comfort. The consequence of consolidating farms is to force the people into towns and villages, or to emigrate; and it was one of the principal causes, that the people themselves stated, of their disturbances.

17 June, 1824. Dr. John Church has known a farm let, perhaps thirty years, to one individual, or tenant, and when it was out of lease, it was covered with a thick population, and most of them paupers; and it is a very puzzling thing to know what to do with the people in such cases. The witness, in his own practice, has endeavoured to ease the people as far as was compatible with doing justice to the landlord. Bad characters merited no consideration; for others he has reserved a few acres to divide into small lots, giving the consolidated farm to a responsible tenant. If the former tenant was good, he was not turned out if able to hold the farm; and in this way he has endeavoured to preserve the interests of the landlord, and provide some place for the poor residents. People, when driven from their farms, go to each other's houses, perhaps half a dozen to one, and it is astonishing upon what little some of them live.

18 June, 1824. Mr. James Lawler says, that the estates under his care are partly in the hands of middle-men, and partly in the hands of occupying tenants. It is invariably his practice, when leases fall in, to give it to the tenant in possession, except where a gentleman has kept land himself. He frequently finds more people on a farm than he wishes; some he puts upon coarser parts of the

land, others he is compelled to let shift for themselves, Page 314. but he endeavours to provide for them in one way or other, because they are so much attached to the soil they are upon. And he finds no difficulty in making these arrangements; there is no people on the earth that are more amenable to the law than the Irish peasantry, if they are let alone.

W. H. W. Newenham, Esq., considers the facility of 7th June, 1824. emigration would be a great thing to the country, situated as it now is; but he can suggest no measure for retarding the increase of the population; for no sooner does a person in Ireland in the lower state of society come to a state of manhood, than his first thoughts are to get married; he puts up a miserable hovel, without having the least idea how he is to provide for a family.

Justin M'Carthy, Esq., thinks, that the power of 9th June, 1824. preventing sub-letting and a system of emigration would be likely to produce a considerable effect in retarding the progress of population.

The Rev. Michael Collins conceives that the great 14th June, 1824. cause of scarcity and distress is, that there is nothing to draw off the surplus population from exclusive dependence on the soil for support: they look to the land alone for the means of employment. As leases fall in, the landlords, believing the cause of their distress to be the overstocking the land with people, turn them out of their lands entirely. These poor people, not getting employment, either erect temporary habitations like sheds, on the highway, or they come into towns and crowd themselves into small apartments, perhaps four or five families in a hovel or garret together, without clothes, or bedding, or food, living upon the chance of employment in the town as labourers. That employment they cannot procure. About a month ago, witness

saw a farm of 500 acres, that had forty families residing on it, thinned in this way. These forty families consisted of 200 individuals: of these, 150 were dispossessed; they were allowed to take with them the old
page 315. roofs of the cabins, that is, the rotten timber and rotten straw, and with these they contrived to erect sheds on the highway. The men could get no employment, the women and children had no resource but to beg, and really it was a most afflicting thing to behold them upon the highway, not knowing where to go to. This system is becoming prevalent, and Mr. Collins conceives the cause of the distress to be the excess of population, with want of employment; and there being no legal provision for securing subsistence for those poor people that are thrown as destitute vagrants upon the world. Mr. Collins thinks that the tendency on the part of landlords to turn off, in that unmerciful way, their surplus stock, as they call it, of men, would be considerably checked, if there were some legal obligations imposed upon them to provide for those poor people till they could provide for themselves, or to do as he has heard was done in Scotland, by the Marchioness of Stafford, when she lessened the population on her estates. She procured temporary accommodation for the deprived tenants, shipped them at her own cost for America, and settled them there; and these people are much better off than they would have been had they continued in the Highlands. Witness thinks that a plan of emigration might answer very well for the present, but unless some other plan was adopted to check the progressive disproportion between employment and population, the evil would be of constant recurrence; and then the system of emigration should be kept up perpetually.

John O'Driscoll, Esq., thinks, that the people living

in Dunmanaway and Clonakilty, in the county of Cork, are in the worst possible state: the land is over-peopled and exhausted. Where estates are fully improved, Mr. O'Driscoll is of opinion that sub-letting is not expedient; but on waste lands he thinks it is.

Francis Blackburne, Esq., states, that a lease had been made by Lord Stradbrook, or his ancestor, of a farm of between four and five hundred acres for thirty-one Page 316. years. It expired in 1823. The land had been subdivided to such a degree, that he believes there were between forty and fifty families resident upon it. Lord Stradbrook's agent took possession, which the people gave him in point of form, and he let them back upon an understanding, that when tenants were provided, and a new disposition made of the property, they should give up possession, Lord Stradbrook's object being to consolidate these farms by retaining a great number of the old tenants, and enlarging their tenements. Mr. Blackburne believes that contracts were made by his Lordship's agent for new lettings, but when possession was demanded, it was refused, and Lord Stradbrook was obliged to bring an ejectment. There was no defence, and the agent, attended by the Sheriff and several men to assist him, went upon the lands and dispossessed this numerous body of occupants. They prostrated the houses, leaving the people at liberty to carry away the timber. The number of persons that were thus deprived of their homes was very large, about forty families, but he cannot tell the number of individuals; they were of all ages and sexes, and in particular a woman almost in the extremity of death.

Major Warburton thinks, that the population is so great, that a partial failure of the crop would cause starvation, for the whole district appears a continued

village. A family, in many instances, have not more than one acre ; in many they have not an acre ; each family may average four or five children. The land, Major Warburton believes, was originally let in farms of ten, and twenty, and thirty acres, and has been sub-divided as the family increased. He does not think that, in this populous district, the enforcement of non-alienation covenants could be carried into effect ; the people would all rise up in resistance. Major Warburton is of opinion, that the young men who receive any education, and who have so far risen in the grade of society, would be willing to emigrate, but that the general mass of the people would rather live in wretchedness where they are.

Page 317.

The Rev. Malachi Duggan says, that many families have emigrated to America, consisting of individuals of all ages, from a month to sixty years old. They find their situation so depressed, that notwithstanding their predilection for their native place, they were glad to embrace an opportunity that offered a better prospect, and reports were circulated that in America they would better their condition. Those who emigrated were, in general, well-disposed people. There might be some idle among them, but the idle in general had no means to bring them to the other side of the Atlantic.

25th May,
1824.

23d July, 1825.
Page 317. Robert John Wilmot Horton, Esq., M. P. — In the year 1823 it was considered that it might be desirable, with reference to the South of Ireland at that time, to encourage a small emigration, more as an experiment, than with any view that an emigration on so small a scale could produce any very beneficial results ; and, as Mr. Robinson, the Superintendent of that emigration, is present, the details of it had better be derived from him. Mr. Horton speaks entirely as an individual, not being in the least authorized by Go-

vernment to say anything on the general principle of emigration. It is an admitted fact, that in parts of Page 318. Ireland the population may be considered as redundant in the sense of the supply of labour being very disproportionate to the demand; and, in such a state of things, Mr. Horton imagines that no remedy could be more satisfactorily applied than emigration, carrying off that population, provided the expense is not too great. The total expense of the emigration to Canada, in the year 1823, according to Mr. Robinson's statement, including one year's provisions after location, in corn and all other charges (except the allowance to the superintendent), amounted to 12,539*l.* 3*s.*, making 22*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* per head for 568 persons; but, with regard to the scheme of emigration generally, Mr. Horton is decidedly of opinion, that 20*l.* for each person, the proportion being one man, one woman, and two children, may be considered a correct estimate, which may be safely adopted, and which, he trusts, will be found sufficient to embrace the allowance of the superintendent. Mr. Wilmot Horton has a letter from Mr. Astle, Page 322. of Dublin, containing two proposals:—the first of which, as compared with the expense incurred in 1823, for the transport of emigrants, exclusive of provisions and medicines, makes a saving of 257*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.* The second, a saving of 489*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*

There is a sort of desultory emigration, which seems to be carried on on no fixed principle, in which emigrants may be carried at much less expense, but with greater inconvenience, than when sent by Government. The object in that case was to reduce the expense to the minimum that was consistent with the health and comfort of the emigrant.

Mr. Wilmot Horton sees no reason, in principle,

why the emigration which has been successfully carried on in 1823, may not be carried into effect to any conceivable extent. If a hundred men can be located at a given expense in Canada, why may not 100,000, 200,000, or 500,000, be located at the same rate of expense? In Upper Canada alone, 160,000 persons can be received, and in one district of Lower Canada, Gaspé, 500,000. And with respect to the practical question, as applied to Ireland, if you can remove a redundant population in a satisfactory manner, at 20% per head, from a place where they are exposed to every sort of temptation, of outrage, and disaffect. n, to colonies where they become an orderly, satisfied, and contented peasantry, is it not worth while, in a national point of view, to incur such an expense for such an object?

The vote that Government has agreed to grant for the present year (1825) is 30,000%. The emigration of 1823
Page 323. was 15,000%, 10,000% only of which extended to the Canada emigration, the other five applied to the Cape of Good Hope. The vote for the present year is to be applied as in 1823, adopting any suggestions for economy that can be devised to make it less expensive.

The province of New Brunswick, as well as the Canadas, would absorb an enormous population, and there are other colonies capable of receiving emigrants without any limitation. In fact, if it be demonstrated that the removal would be a justifiable expense for the country to incur, it does not appear to me that there can be any sort of difficulty in locating the emigrants in the colonial possessions of the empire. A voluntary emigration, unconnected with any support from Government, and without regulation, takes place to Quebec. It commenced in 1815, and has increased from 5000 or 6000 to 12,900 in 1824. By far the

greater proportion, being little better than paupers, became a grievous burthen to the population of the towns in both provinces.

It is extremely necessary that the two distinct characters of emigration should be kept separate; that which Government directs for relieving parts of Ireland where the population is redundant, and that which is voluntary; as the same political reasons may not make it desirable to encourage the one so much as the other. Communications between Committees appointed in Ireland and Quebec might easily be established. Page 326.

The subject of emigration was not originally taken up by Government with the view of relieving English parishes, but witness had turned his attention to the subject. Confining the word redundant to the disproportion of the supply of labour to the demand (for Ireland, under more favourable circumstances, could contain six times the number of its present inhabitants, without involving necessarily the consequence of such a redundancy), he considers that the introduction of capital would have the most satisfactory tendency to absorb that redundancy; but that capital would be more conveniently introduced after the absorption of part of the redundant population, by the means of a well-regulated emigration. At the same time he feels perfectly convinced, that unless the landlords of Ireland are completely concurrent in such a measure, it could not by possibility produce any good effect—and, on the other hand, those who are encouraged to emigrate should be satisfied, that the measure is specially intended for their benefit and interests, and not a mere system of removal under the authority of government. He disapproves of any condition that emigrants should Page 326.

be obtained by a private contribution of so many pounds a-head, Government paying the remaining expense, because the emigrations of 1823 and 1825 are national experiments; but, if the attention of the gentlemen of Ireland were turned to the incorporation of any local system in Ireland, with this system the whole measure might be materially improved. Mr. Wilmot Horton does not presume to give an opinion as to what proportion the landlord should contribute towards removing and settling an emigrant. But he believes that the successful emigration to Canada has produced practical good in the district of Ireland from which it was taken. He thinks that there are districts in Ireland from which 200,000 unemployed persons might be abstracted with the best possible results. He feels more satisfied of the possible advantages to be derived from the removal of such persons, than as to the question how far the expense, in a national point of view, can be justified; but such expense is by no means thrown away, in a national point of view, for the colonies will be improved, their waste lands cultivated, and national wealth increased. The abstraction of a certain portion of the redundant population would be a good preparation for the employment of capital in Ireland, because it would produce an increase of tranquillity; for, if capital could be beneficially employed, it would flow into Ireland without any operation on the part of Government; and as to the four millions required to settle 200,000 emigrants in the colonies being lost to the country, if accurately traced for a series of years, this capital would be found to have reproduced itself in the colonies in a most beneficial manner;—it would unquestionably be a present outlay of capital, but ultimately there would be no loss.

Mr. Wilmot Horton does not mean to say that emigration, carried on on a small scale, can produce any material effect; but, upon an extensive scale, and coupled with local measures in Ireland to prevent that tendency of the population to increase as it has done, it would produce the most satisfactory result.

1825.
Feb. 25.
Page 328.

As an individual, he is not of opinion that an increase of population would accelerate the period at which Canada would separate from this country, and become one of the United States, but believes that such increase of population would produce the contrary effect: he cannot suppose that a population, removed from a state of great distress to one of comparative comfort, would be disposed to a separation from the mother-country. A proposition respecting the establishment of a steam-communication between Ireland and America was made to Lord Bathurst; in answer to which his Lordship expressed his disposition to encourage it, and his general approbation of the application of that system. Page 329.

The uniform satisfaction expressed by the emigrants, shows that they are pleased with the government of the colonies to which they have been sent, as well as the administration of the laws, and feel an assurance of a tranquil and happy settlement; and they find that, in as far as respects religion, there is no difference—all enjoy the same civil rights.

In Lower Canada the Roman Catholic may be considered a concurrent religion with the Church of England. The Roman Catholic clergy are entitled to tithes from persons of their own communion, being one twenty-sixth of the grain raised; and the Protestant clergy are to be supported from a reservation of land.

Page 330. The grant of 30,000*l.* this year, for the purpose of emigration, may be considered altogether as an experiment, as it is not likely to be carried on without some concurrence on the part of the Irish nation.

1825.
Feb. 23.

Peter Robinson, Esq., was employed as superintendent of the emigration from Ireland in 1823. He endeavoured to get such small farmers as had been dispossessed of their lands, or persons brought up in habits of agriculture. On first publishing the terms offered by government, some jealousy was excited, as if there was a wish to get rid of, instead of relieving, them; but meeting with friends who had been in Canada, and discharged soldiers and others, their suspicions vanished, and there was no difficulty in getting any number. Those selected were recommended by the noblemen and gentlemen of the county, as being absolute paupers, and such as it was particularly desirable to get rid of. Many more emigrants could have been got; they came alongside of the ship in numbers until the hour of sailing, and were always much disappointed at not being received. The provisions for the voyage consisted of beef, pork, oatmeal, cocoa, cheese, butter, biscuit, and an allowance of tea and sugar for the women.

The emigrants are much satisfied with their situation. The autumn was pleasant; they were very little exposed. They were at first encamped in the immediate neighbourhood of persons placed on their lands three years before, and saw how far advanced, and

Page 331. how comfortable they were. This encouraged them; and it is but doing them justice to state, that during three months that he continued with them in the forest, there was neither constable nor magistrate within twenty miles, and they were at all times

obedient, and were grateful for every act of kindness.

After the first year they will be able to provide Indian corn and potatoes sufficient; and those who have an opportunity of working during harvest, may supply themselves with wheaten bread. The cow given by government adds much to their comfort.

It does not appear to Mr. Robinson that there can be much reduction in the expense, except perhaps in the shipping. The emigrants did not object to the Page 331. plan of provisioning them on shipboard, but they would have been better pleased with oatmeal. They invariably refused cheese on board, and were prevailed upon with difficulty to taste cocoa. Mr. Robinson knows of no other facilities or aid to render the emigration more easy or more cheap, than giving them provisions for the first year that they are placed upon their lands. Those who emigrated in 1823 have sent communications to their friends in Ireland, expressive of contentment and satisfaction with the change of their condition. Mr. Robinson obtained assistance from several of the Roman Catholic clergy in carrying his plan into effect, particularly from Mr. O'Brien at Newmarket, and Mr. Jones at Mallow; nor could he have succeeded had the Catholic clergy been opposed. The emigrants chosen were all represented as paupers; they were partially employed at home, living on one Page 332 or two acres; and among them were found weavers, blacksmiths, and other tradesmen; a great proportion were industrious, and anxious to be employed. Mr. Robinson left the settlement in February last, but the surgeon, Mr. Reade, left it in November, at which time those who had boys to assist them had cleared ten acres, and put it in crop; and the remainder, on an

average, four acres; nor was there any doubt of their being able to produce a sufficiency to maintain themselves and families. The lower class in Ireland are very much alike: Mr. Robinson found them much more intelligent than he expected; most of them could read and write, and calculate their allowance of rations to the eighth part of an ounce. This year witness has engaged 1600 persons, who are preparing to emigrate. Religious difference was frequently spoken of; and he is certain that the absence of any such difference in Canada tends to make them more happy and satisfied

Page 332. with their lot than in their own country. There were only ten Protestants among the 568 emigrants, and they all behaved well on the passage. Since they were settled in Canada, some difficulty arose from their ignorance, and the want of attention of those whose duty it was to have instructed them. On the 23d of April last the militia were called out to a general training, or muster, and among the rest the Irish settlers. At this meeting a breach of the peace took place; a warrant was issued to apprehend the offenders, and the constables, instead of going to the proper dwellings of these people, went to the depôt, where a great number were assembled who threatened resistance; the constables were frightened, and alarmed the magistrates, who sent a strong force to compel obedience, and one of the settlers was killed. These poor people were hardly and injudiciously dealt with, nsomuch that both the judge and jury strongly recommended, that those of them who were convicted of naving committed the assault should have their fines remitted, which was done accordingly.

Page 333. They were badly off for clothing, as government gave them only blankets and some bedding. They

were located about 300 miles above Quebec, and will find no great difficulty in procuring clothing for their wives, and they can work as labourers during harvest.

He was not in the habit of conversing with them about religious distinctions, but they frequently expressed their happiness in being in a country where there were none, and no tithes. There are in the neighbourhood two Catholic priests. There is one-seventh of the land set apart for the Protestant clergy, but none for the Roman Catholic. The settlers taken out in 1823 pay, after five years, a quit rent of twopence per acre, redeemable at twenty years purchase. In Upper Canada the Protestant religion is established, for the people are generally Protestants. In Lower Canada it is established also, but without detriment to the Roman Catholic religion, which in that province is the prevailing one. The Roman Catholic clergy are supported as they were before the conquest of the colony, and that support is ample.

Emigrants from the north of Ireland are principally settled in three or four townships in Upper Canada, and they are very flourishing. Some little religious feeling between the Irish Catholics and Protestants has appeared, in which they are mutually to blame; Page 334. but it is dying away, as the old settlers are perfectly indifferent, and will join neither party. Voluntary emigrants find no difficulty in getting lands to settle upon; nor are there any forms to go through which they cannot easily manage. The fees on a hundred acres may amount to 8*l.*, which may be paid two, three, or five years afterwards. Voluntary emigrants frequently remain at Quebec during the summer season, where they are employed in loading and unloading ships. They occasionally find their way to

Montreal, Kingston, and York, where they are sure to find work during harvest. At Quebec the demand for labour ceases early in October: the wages will average 3s. per day, and expense of living may be about 8d. He thinks the colony will be benefited by the arrival of the emigrants, to the full amount, in time, of the expense of sending them. The voluntary emigrants with large families suffer very much; it is distressing to see them land. The Emigrant Society of Quebec has relieved a great number, and assisted in getting them to Upper Canada, where in two or three years they get absorbed in the population of the colony. The old inhabitants are in general disposed to receive them kindly; and there is little loss by death.

From a letter from Mr. Buchanan, and the evidence of Mr. Astle, it appears that the Passenger Act operates very oppressively on voluntary emigration. The passage used to be from 2*l.* to 3*l.*; it is now 6*l.* or 7*l.* Page 335 & 336. The provisions appointed by the Act are not such as the Irish emigrant likes, or is accustomed to, and are also much dearer than those which he would furnish himself. There is no necessity for a surgeon. Mr. Astle admits that some regulations are necessary, else the cupidity of the brokers would crowd the vessels too Page 337. much. Mr. Astle thinks that there is sufficient shipping employed in the Quebec trade to take out 100,000 emigrants every year. He thinks the expense of taking out the emigrants, considering what they received, not too great, but he believes a scale more economical might be adopted. He says, that the emigration has decreased latterly; at the close of the war it was from thirty to forty thousand, now it is from fifteen to twenty thousand. All descriptions of persons go, though not so many poor now, on account of the high

price. Almost all that now go are agriculturists, those that went some years ago were chiefly artisans. They go from different counties, almost every year, but chiefly from the northern and midland. More Protestants, Mr. Astle thinks, go than Catholics, considering the relative situation of the population.

The general custom of emigrating is for two or three of the youngest of the family to go first, and when these obtain a footing the rest are sent for. Mr. Astle thinks that the giving emigrants a free passage is enough ; that at present they get too much. His reason for recommending that only a free passage be given to them is, that since fifteen or twenty thousand go yearly, and pay their passage, fifty thousand would succeed, not paying their passage. You might also make them deposit five pounds in Ireland, and give it them back when they get to Canada, which would prevent their becoming burdensome to the Colony. There is always abundance of labour and high wages at Quebec, which prevents the emigrants from going up the country ; and then winter comes, employment ceases, and they become distressed, or are forced to go up the country. Yet most of them do well, for none of them come home. Mr. Astle has conversed with great numbers, who have come back to fetch their families, and all seem much delighted. Generally speaking, the lower orders view America as a kind of promised land, and commonly succeed in the Canadas. Witness has taken out emigrants, whose passage was paid by their landlords. He thinks the lowest Irish peasantry would make their way, after arriving at Quebec, if their passage were paid, and five pounds given them on landing, particularly if the first emigration possessed sufficient capital to locate them.

selves, because they would be able to employ the next year's settlers. He is only acquainted with Upper Canada, as being concerned in the trade.

- Page 339. Major-General Bourke resides in the neighbourhood of Limerick, and is a magistrate, both in the town and county; is well acquainted with the relations between landlord and tenant in that country. He came to reside only in 1816, before which period subdivision had been carried to a pernicious extent, but since it has been diminishing. When the leases expire, the population is prodigious, owing to subdivision having been carried on to a destructive degree. During the war agricultural produce was high, and a small portion of land was sufficient to maintain a family; and when a son or daughter married, the father gave them a portion of his farm. Can hardly state how the surplus population is disposed of; some go upon bogs or uncultivated land, many wander up and down the country. Pasture-land also has increased since the war, and this multiplies the number of the dispossessed tenantry. The General thinks that the system of consolidating farms is now universally acted upon; and it produces a great deal of misery. The case which occurred on Lord Stradbrook's property led to murder, burning of houses, and several other outrages; and at Croom there was difficulty in getting the tenants out—
- Page 340. the military were called in. As long as there are no manufactures in the country, emigration appears the only remedy, but thinks it ought to be upon a general principle. Does not think that the void occasioned by emigration would be soon filled up, because the landlords will no longer admit sub-letting, and will see the necessity of keeping down the redundant population. He thinks that a greater extent of bog than of moun-

tain land is capable of improvement, and yet hardly at the present price of produce. The poor people are disposed to follow any sort of employment offered to them. Thinks the apprehension of capitalists, that their establishments would not be safe, is unfounded, as the people are tranquil when employed. Has Page 341. known two general failures of the potatoe crop, and several partial failures, which may be attributed to the subdivision of land; and if the potatoes were raised upon large farms, and sent to market, the supply would be better. And where poor persons have given up cultivating land for themselves altogether, and have betaken themselves to labour, they have done better. The Major-General means to turn a proportion of his tenants, into labourers, by building cottages for them, attaching a small garden to each, of half an acre, or less. They are to hold these at will, to secure their good behaviour, and they may sell their labour at the Page 342. highest price they can procure; but such a system, if general, would not absorb the whole of the redundant population, for vast numbers are without sufficient employment for their support.

Reverend Thomas Costello says, in one part of his parish subdividing has been carried to some extent, in another not. The subdivisions are oftener made by middle-men than the proprietors; for they say that a cottage with an acre of garden will nearly bring the same rent that three or four acres set in farm way would bring. Many show a great disposition to emigrate: Page 343. some of them, cottagers and beggars, have gone out. They may have friends going to America, who pay their passage. The emigration ordered by Government was confined to the county of Cork; but some of Mr. Costello's people endeavoured to get themselves

on the list. They sell their interest in their holdings, their little furniture, their car and horse, which furnish means for going out, which costs only 7*l.* or 8*l.* a head. Knows none who have returned unsuccessful, but letters come inviting their friends to join them; for Mr. Costello has seen letters from tradesmen, who went to America, encouraging their friends very much to follow them. The emigration from Ireland last year was supposed to be for the purpose of removing the bad spirits.

22 April,
1825.

J. S. Rochfort, Esq., says, population has increased very considerably, even doubled within twenty-five years, over the whole country. About three years ago there was a considerable emigration of the Protestants and but few Catholics, but does not think that there is any disposition to emigrate now. If a system of emigration were made serviceable both for landlords and tenants, many landlords would give a sum of money with each family, if Government would assist them to get rid of them peaceably. There is a great disposition on the part of the proprietors to remove the tenants as leases fall in, by which they are turned out in the greatest destitution. He scarcely knows how such subsist on the pittance they have; on charity, or employment, when it can be got; or, perhaps, they turn Rockites. He thinks that there is a great disinclination among the Roman Catholics to emigrate, but Protestants are very willing, and a good many have emigrated. The Roman Catholics feel a stronger attachment to the country than the Protestants do; for the Protestants consider themselves a superior class, and if they are not better off in life than the Roman Catholics, they will try to better themselves elsewhere, if they can.

R. De la Cour, Esq., says, the practice of sub-letting is carried to a very great extent, and is one of the greatest evils affecting Ireland. He could state many instances, proving the extent of the evil, but one more especially. The original lease of the farm of Knockananig was dated the 18th of November. 1786. It was for three lives, originally made to a person of the name of Thomas Buckley. The farm contained one hundred and three acres, three roods, and thirty-two perches, of inland or arable ground; and one hundred and seventy-one acres and thirteen perches of rough or mountain land. Thomas Buckley demised to three persons, Daniel Sullivan, John Brien, and John Sullivan, one-third each; and the present occupiers upon that farm, whose lots were valued under the Tithe Commutation Act, stand thus:—Daniel Brien, one-ninth; Timothy Brien, one-eighteenth; William Barry, one-twelfth; John Barry, one-twelfth; John Brien, one-eighth; Dennis Creeden, one-sixteenth; Daniel Creeden, one-sixteenth; Daniel Sullivan, one-twelfth; John Sullivan, one-twelfth; Daniel Sullivan Mahony, one-sixth; and Daniel Sullivan the second, one-twelfth. John Barry demised one acre of his lot to a person of the name of John Dorgan; and John Sullivan demised three roods to Michael Croncen; so that under the valuation to ascertain the proportion that this farm should pay to the rector of that parish, it became necessary to ascertain what portion of the composition rested upon so small a portion as three roods of land.

Right Honourable Lord Carbery understood that the disturbances which took place in the south latterly mostly arose from disputes between landlords and tenants. The tenants withholding their rent, and en-

Page 345.
6 May,
1825.

Page 345.
12 May,
1825.

deavouring to keep possession of the lands, from which their landlords were desirous of putting them out—but there is nothing of that kind in his lordship's part of the country. Lord Carbery thinks it utterly impossible that the number of persons found in possession at the end of the lease, could have maintained themselves with comfort ; many of them were paupers. His Lordship has had non-alienation clauses inserted in all his leases, but has never acted upon them : they are thought hard, and juries will not find for the landlords ; the consequence of this is the deterioration of the produce of land at least 25 per cent. His Lordship scarcely knows an instance of the entire failure of the potatoe-crop, even in the year of scarcity which last occurred, though there was a considerable reduction in the potatoe-crop ; yet it was not so much the want of provision, as of the means of buying it, that produced the distress.

Page 346. His Lordship thinks it would be better both for farmers and labourers, if the small farmers were turned into labourers, and produce, through the agency of large farmers possessing capital, might be brought in larger quantities, better and cheaper, to market.

Page 346. Mr. James Cropper says, that a very considerable and increasing influx of Irish labourers is coming to Liverpool, and this influx will be still more increased by the stoppage put to sub-letting ; and the coming of these labourers has in some degree lowered wages, though not much hitherto, as the cotton trade has increased so much, which, without these labourers, it could not have done. By means of steam-boats, the intercourse between the countries has become more easy, cheap, and expeditious, a passage between Liverpool and Dublin being only half-a-crown. It is Mr. Cropper's

decided opinion, that, if a state of comfort is not established in Ireland, the distress of Ireland must in the end come to this country. He considers the equalization of the laws between Protestant and Catholic would promote the measure; for he thinks if something is not done to give employment to the Irish people, the two countries will very much assimilate; and the present state of the Catholic question is one of the things which prevents that employment being given.

John Godley, Esq., says, that of late years the Roman Catholics have emigrated as well as Protestants, but not in the same proportion, nor of so good a description. The Protestants are more inclined to try their fortune, either by emigration or in the army.—Of 130 Chelsea pensioners, the Protestants outnumbered the Catholics.

J. R. McCulloch, Esq., thinks, that emigration by itself would be entailing a useless expenditure upon the country, unless combined with other measures—*viz.*, preventing the splitting of farms, disfranchising the 40s. freeholders, and establishing schools upon a good principle; and then the void caused by emigration would not be filled up. Page 346.

The Right Reverend Dr. Doyle lives in the vicinity of a very considerable town, Carlow, into which there has been a great influx of poor people from the country, who occupy little dwellings, hoping to live by their labour. Whilst the prices of corn were high, they were able to support themselves in the mountainous districts and marshy lands, chiefly in Queen's County; but failing to pay their rent, they were obliged to relinquish their habitations, and crowd into the town. This is one cause. A second cause, early and improvident marriages, when there is no prospect Page 347.

of supporting a family. There is no manufacture in Carlow of any kind. An attempt was made to introduce the spinning of linen-yarn, but without success. Dr. Doyle is making an attempt to teach the children to make Leghorn bonnets, in which he hopes to make some progress. He thinks that there is great distress in all the towns of the diocese of Kildare and Leighlin, but still greater in Carlow. Sub-letting has contributed much to the redundant population. In the counties of Carlow and Queen's, it has gone to a very great extent, but not so far in the county of Kildare. This subdivision arises from joint-tenancy, and the necessities and conveniences of poor families. The district called the Colliery Country has been covered with a dense population during the last twenty or thirty years, previous to which it was almost a waste. The population is increased by improvident marriages; but even these are caused by the extreme poverty of the people—poverty paralyses their exertions—they cannot be worse than before—hence they go together. Moreover, when the head of a family is extremely poor, he lives in a wretched cabin, and has only one apartment, where he and his children dwell: it is so with his neighbour, and there is then a continual intercourse kept up in these small dwellings, so that the different sexes are mixed up together: and that respectful distance, which is always observed in families of

Page 348. any thing of rank, is lost entirely upon the poor. Hence it is, that if these people had some property that would give them an education and a feeling of self-respect, and would put them, as it were, upon their energies to seek a livelihood, they would look before them before they married; but now their very depression and their extreme poverty throw them together like so many

savages in a wood. "It is a frightful state of society, and when it is considered, it fills me with so much pain and horror, that I have frequently prayed to God, if it were his will, rather to take me out of life than leave me to witness such evils, if they were to continue; they are beyond the endurance of human nature!"

No. XII.

Report from the Committee on the payment of wages Page 348.
out of the poor-rate, states, that in some districts of the country, able-bodied labourers are sent round to the farmers, and receive a part, and, in some instances, the whole of their subsistence from the parish, while working upon the land of individuals, by which the parish is obliged to pay for labour which ought to have been hired and paid for by private persons. In other parts of the country, this practice has been carried on to a very great extent, for the sake of diminishing the income of the clergyman, and paying for the expense of one class of men out of the revenue of another. The evils of this system are as follow:—

1st. The employer does not receive efficient labour from the labourer whom he hires. In parts of Norfolk, for instance, a labourer is quite certain of obtaining an allowance from the parish sufficient to support his family, and it consequently becomes indifferent to him whether he earn a small sum or a large one. It is obvious, indeed, that a disinclination to work must be the consequence of so vicious a system. He, whose subsistence is secure without work, and who cannot obtain more than a mere sufficiency even by the hardest labour, will naturally be an idle and careless labourer. Fre-

quently the work done by four or five such labourers does not amount to what might easily be performed by a single labourer working at task-work.

Page 348. 2dly. Persons who have no need of farm labour are obliged to contribute to the payment of work done for others.

3dly. A surplus population is encouraged ; men who receive but a small pittance know that they have only to marry, and that pittance will be augmented in proportion to the number of their children ; hence the supply of labour is by no means regulated by the demand, and parishes are burdened with thirty, forty, or fifty labourers for whom they can find no employment, and who serve to depress the situation of all their fellow-labourers in the same parish.

4thly. By far the worst consequence of the system is, the degradation of the character of the labouring class.

No. XIII.

Page 351. An Act to amend the law of Ireland respecting the assignment and sub-letting of lands and tenements—By which it is enacted, that when lands are held under lease made before 1st June, 1826, with covenant against sub-letting, no future act of the landlord shall be deemed a waiver of such covenant, unless he be a party to the instrument of sub-letting, or his consent be given in writing ; and where lands shall be held by lease made after the 1st of June, 1826, not containing a clause authorising sub-letting, lessees shall not assign or sub-let, without express consent of the lessor, by writing or indorsement on the deed, &c.

No. XIV.

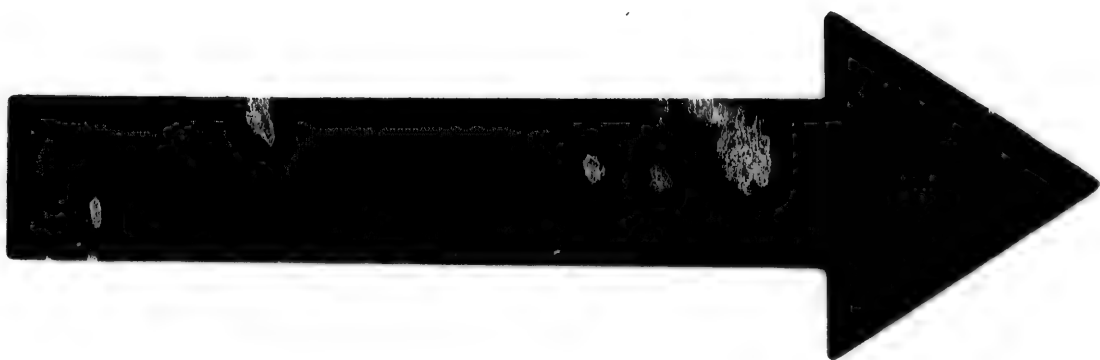
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3d. Irish applicants, in number one hundred and thirty-two, petition in favour of several thousand families, who are desirous of emigrating from Ireland.

THE END.



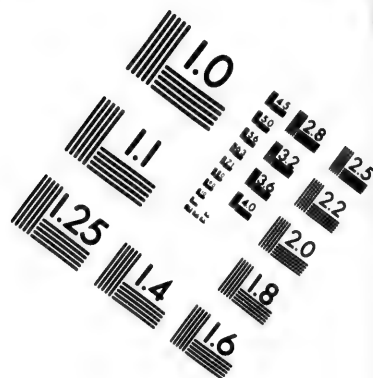
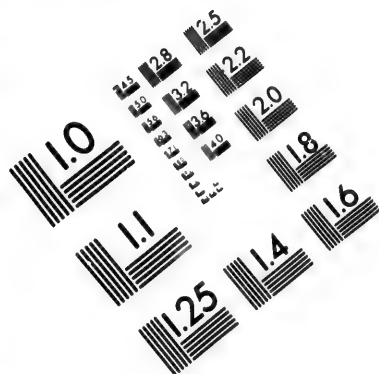
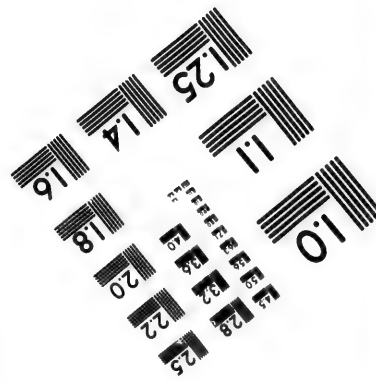
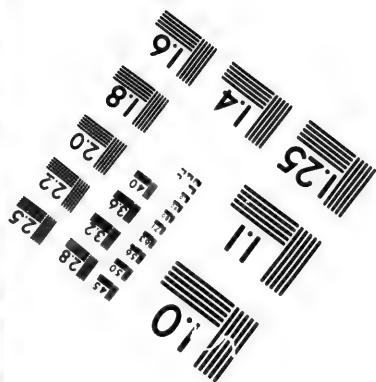
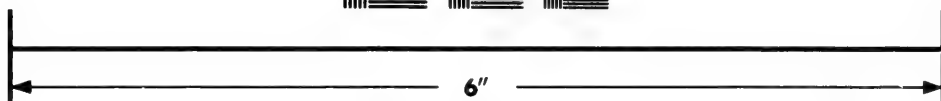
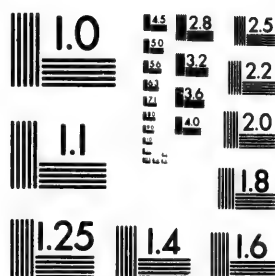


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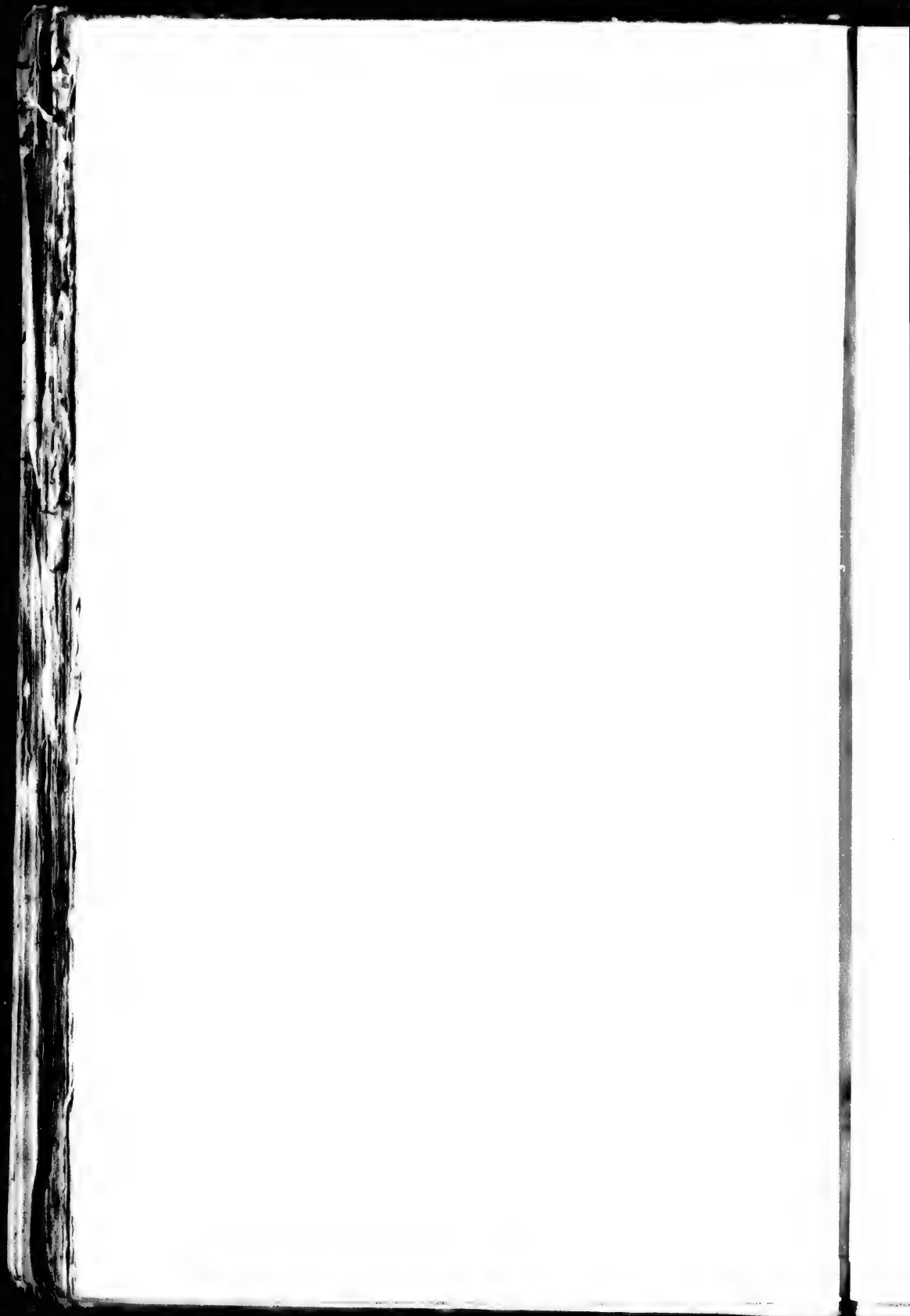
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